Archie® ADVENTURE SERIES

NO.5 JUNE

$1.00

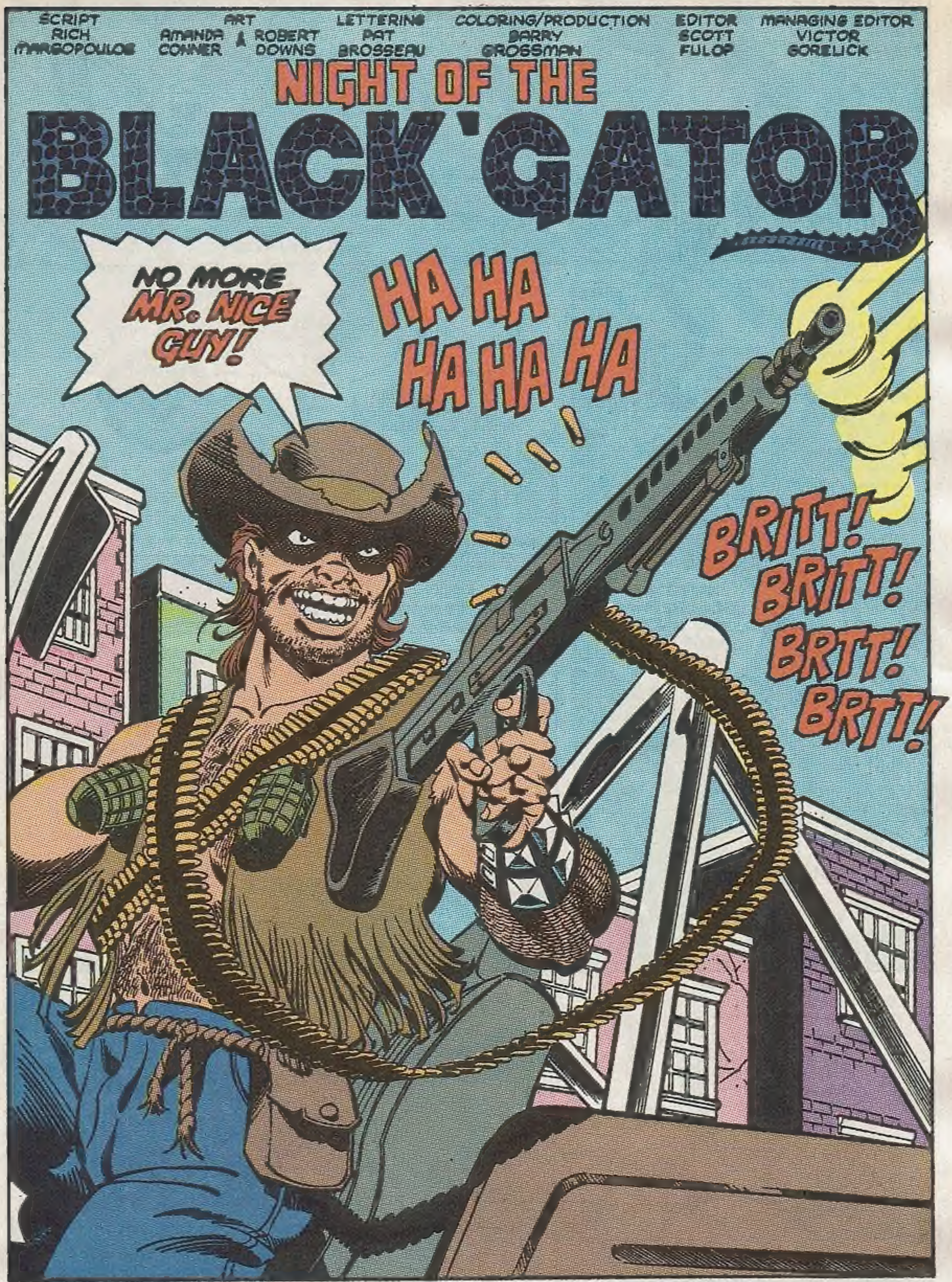
THE ADVENTURES OF BAYOU BILLY™

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

KELLEY JONES

Archie® Salutes "ARTIST OF THE MONTH"

REGINA CURRO



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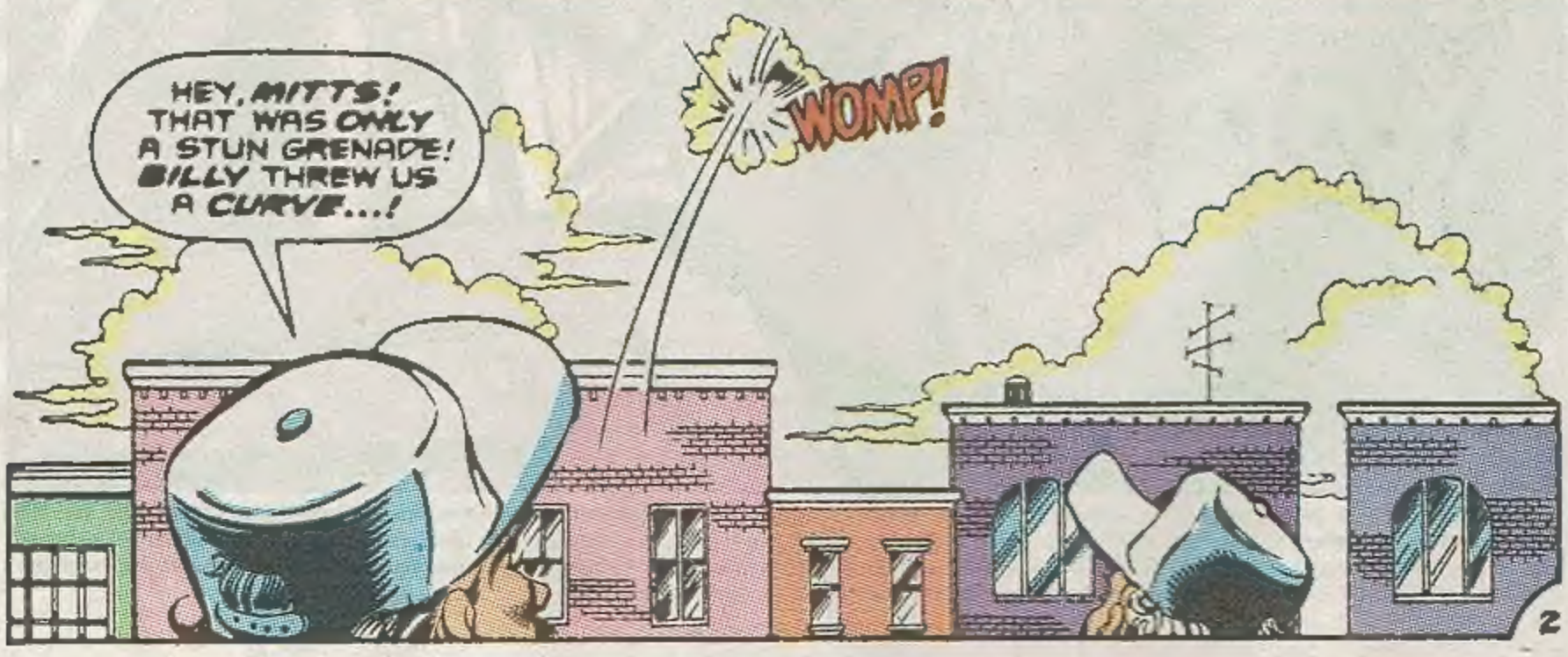
BOSS! IT'S BAYOU BILLY! HE'S PACKIN' MAJOR HEAT!
RELAX! IT'D TAKE A HAND GRENADE TO PRY US OUTTA THIS ARMORED LIMO!
BUT MR. LA RUE! HE...HE'S GOIN' FOR A GRENADE!!

MITTS! SLUGGER! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!

SHAGGED IT! NO SWEAT!

HIGH HEAT COMIN' YOUR WAY, SLUGGER!
AND IT'S OUTTA HERE...!!


HEY, MITTS! THAT WAS ONLY A STUN GRENADE! BILLY THREW US A CURVE...!
WOMP!

GAME'S OVER, BOYS! EITHER YOU DROP 'EM-- OR I DROP YOU!
FIRST BANK OF

KLAT!
KLATTER
KLONK!
FAP!

OUT OF THE CAR, LA RUE! THE BRIEF-CASE--! FORK IT OVER!
YOU CAN'T SPEND THE MONEY, BILLY!

IT'S DIRTY, AIN'T BEEN LAUNDERED YET!
I'LL REMEMBER TO GO HEAVY ON THE BLEACH! Y'ALL HAVE A GOOD DAY, HEART!

BRITT! BRITT! BRITTT! BRIT!
HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHA

BOSS! SOMEBODY CALLED THE COPS!
TELL 'EM THE TRUTH! THEN, WE GOTTA FIND THAT MONEY BEFORE THEY DO!!
WHAT'LL WE SAY?

HERE'S MIGRAINE MIKE, SERGEANT!
NETTED HIM RED-HANDED, WE DID!
YUP! NOW ABOUT THAT REWARD--?
;MUMBLE GRUMBLE: IF IT WASN'T FOR THAT BOTTLE OF ASPIRIN--!
BROADSIDE, SURESHOT AN' TRACKER!

BAYOU BILLY'S BOUNTY HUNTIN' BUDDIES! YORE JUS' TH' GENTS I WANNA SEE...! ;MUNCH:
;GRUMBLE MUMBLE: BUFFERED, NO LESS!!

DON'T S'POSE Y'KNOW WHERE BILLY'S AT NOW, HUH? ;CHOMP:
COULD BE ONE OF A MILLION PLACES, SERGEANT! WHY?

HE'S WANTED ON ROBBERY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER CHARGES! ;SMACK:
ROBBERY?
MURDER?!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

ME, NEITHER! BUT IT'S M'JOB TO BRING 'IM IN!
YOU SEE 'IM, TELL 'IM TH' SMART THING T'DO'S GIVE HISSELF UP!
;CRUNCH:
;URP:
WANTED

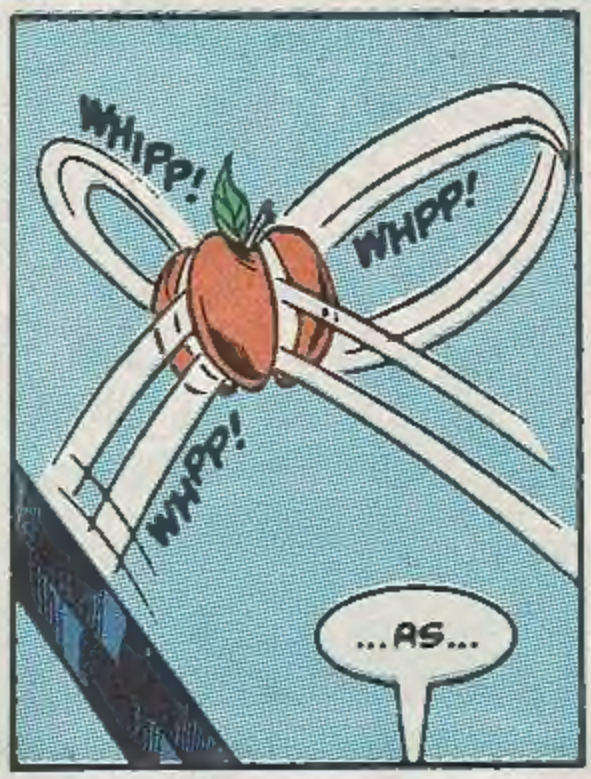
WE GOTTA DO SOMETHIN'!
YUP!
;HIC:
I 'GREE! BUT...WHAT?!

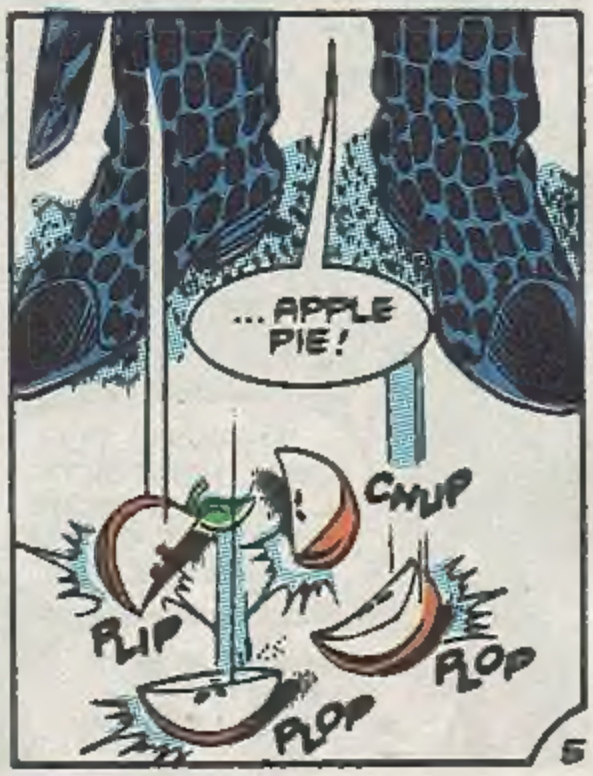
BOUNTY HUNTING QUARTERLY
HOW HE NABBED SWAMP GAS CHARLIE
BILLY'S BOTTOM-LESS BAG O' TRICKS
EXCLUSIVE: WHO IS THE CAJUN?
WHUMP!
BAYOU BILLY!
BAYOU BILLY!
BAYOU BILLY--!
I'M SICK OF READIN' ABOUT BAYOU BILLY!!

I'M TWICE THE BOUNTY HUNTER HE IS! BUT HE RAKES IN ALL THE PUBLICITY!

WE'LL SEE WHAT HAPPENS...
...WHEN I CUT HIM DOWN TO SIZE!
THUNK!

EASY...


WHIPP!
WHPP!
WHPP!
...AS...


...APPLE PIE!
CHUP
FLIP
FLOP
FLOP

IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS! BILLY'S RELENTLESS, OBSESSED WITH US--!
WHADDAYA EXPECT, ROCCO? WHEN THAT CONTRACT WAS PUT OUT ON HIM...

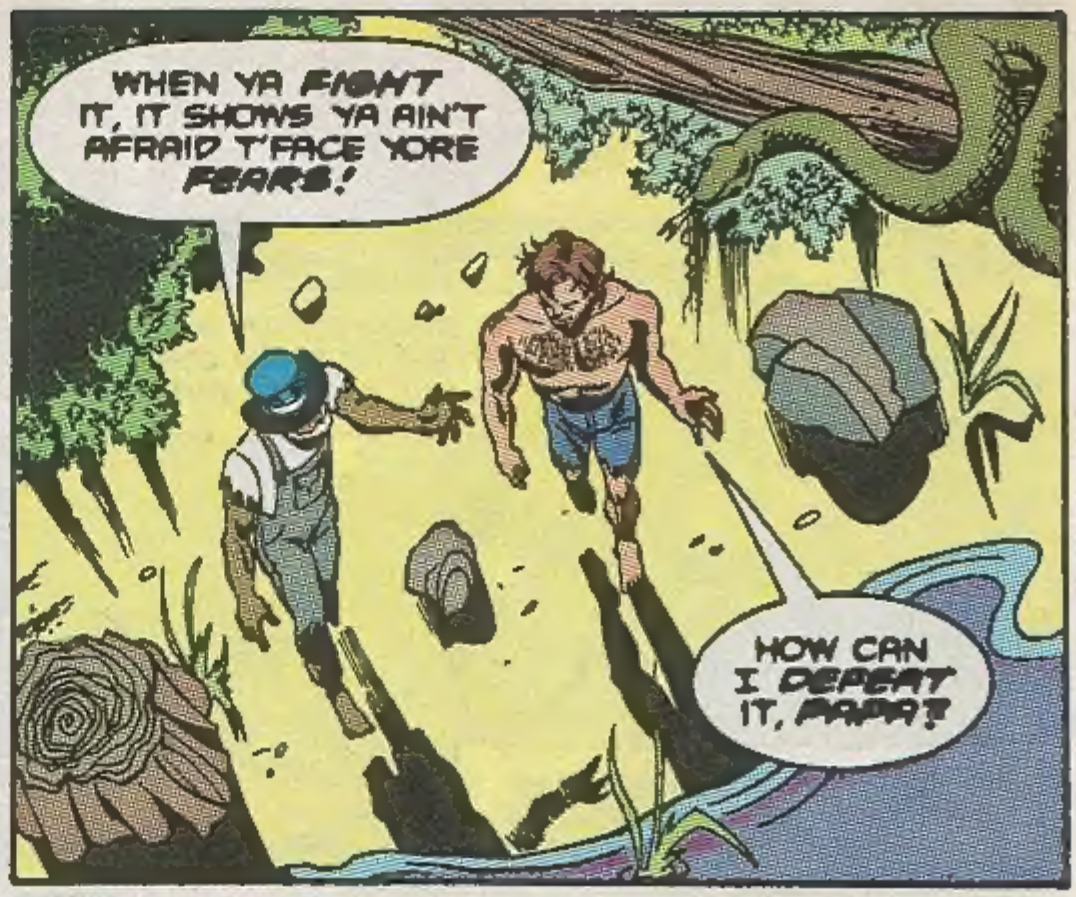
...WHO'D THOUGHT HURRICANE HANK'D ACCIDENTALLY WASTE HIS WIFE INSTEAD?!
AN UNFORTUNATE MISTAKE, ROCK--
ONE I HOPE TO SOON RECTIFY!
RINGG!
AH, THAT SHOULD BE SCHWARTZ N. EIGER NOW!

EVERYTHING WENT WITHOUT A HITCH, MR. GORDON! YEAH! I'VE BOOKED A MOON FLIGHT TOMORROW, NO SWEAT...!
EXCELLENT!

EIGER IS A WASHED-UP SOAP OPERA STAR! HE'S TURNED HIS TALENTS TO CRIME!
THANKS TO HIM, HE'S GOT LA RUE'S MOB AND THE COPS AFTER BILLY!
A SIMPLE BUT EFFECTIVE PLAN, EH? EH?!

I'M SWIMMIN' IN CYPRESS WATER! IT'S SO DARK, IT'S LIKE LIQUID NIGHT!
A SUDDEN SPLASHING AN' CHANGE IN PRESSURE TELLS ME I'M NOT ALONE!
I TURN AN' SEE THE BIGGEST 'GATOR IN MY LIFE--BLACK AS MIDNIGHT! I DRAW MY KNIFE! IT GRINS A SMILE OF DEATH AT ME!
I SNAP AWAKE!
PAPA JAMBO, AN OLD MAN TEACHIN' ME THE WAYS OF THE BAYOU, STANDS IN THE DOOR LIKE A SHADOW!
HEARD YA CRY OUT IN YORE SLEEP! Y'ALL RIGHT, BOY?
I HAD A STRANGE DREAM, PAPA... 'BOUT A BLACK 'GATOR!
TH' BLACK 'GATOR, HUH? THAT'S A GOOD SIGN!
GOOD? IT ATTACKED ME! I FOUGHT TO STOP IT!

TH' BLACK GATOR'S YORE SECRET GUILT AND HATES -- ALL BUNDLED UP INTO ONE!

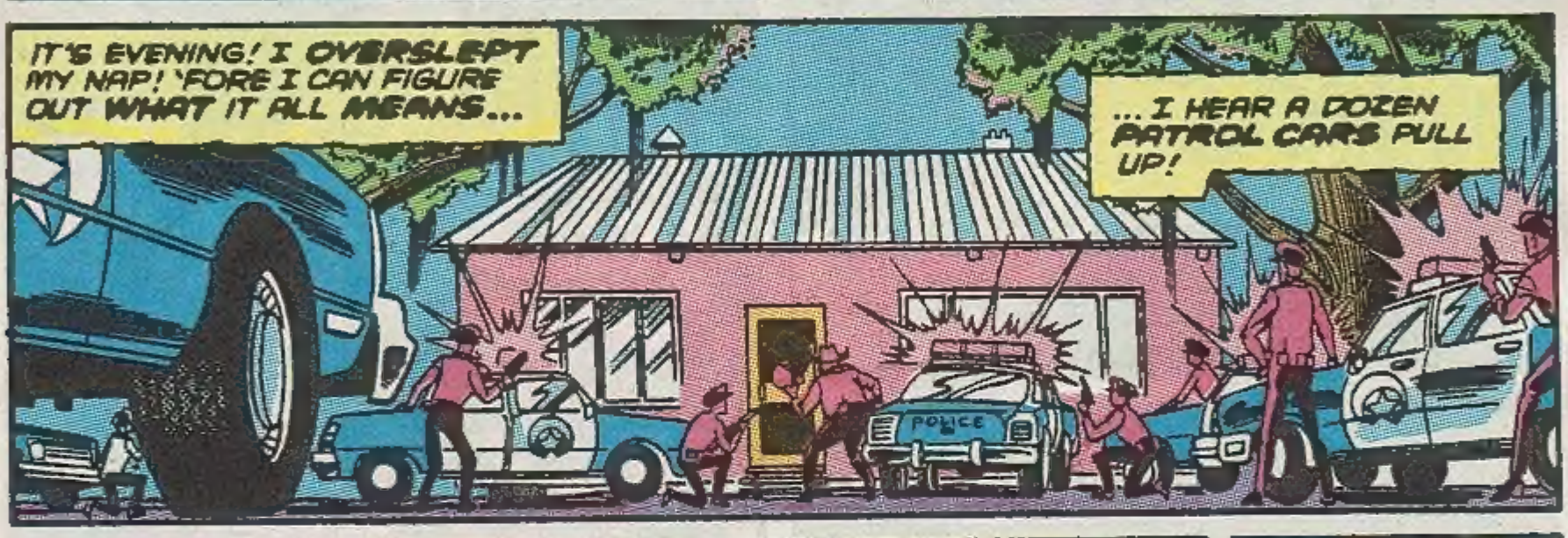

WHEN YA FIGHT IT, IT SHOWS YA AIN'T AFRAID T'FACE YORE FEARS!
HOW CAN I DEFEAT IT, PAPA?

YA CAN'T, BILLY! THERE'S A BLACK 'GATOR LURKIN' DEEP DOWN INSIDE ALL'A US!
MOST YA KIN DO'S GUARD 'GAINST IT!

HAS ANYONE EVER BEAT THE BLACK 'GATOR?
HAD ME A STUDENT ONCE WHO DID! HAD T'LET 'IM GO! DIDN'T KNOW IT AT TH' TIME...

... BUT HE HAD SO MUCH EVIL IN HIS HEART, HE WAS TH' BLACK 'GATOR!

I SNAP AWAKE! A DREAM WITHIN A DREAM! WEIRD!
PAPA'D SAY THE DREAM WAS SOME KINDA' OMEN!


IT'S EVENING! I OVERSLEPT MY NAP! 'FORE I CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT IT ALL MEANS...
...I HEAR A DOZEN PATROL CARS PULL UP!
POLICE

IT MUST'VE BEEN A CHORE'N A HALF FINDIN' MY SECLUDED HOME I GO OUT TO SEE WHAT THE RUCKUS'S 'BOUT!
HI SARGE! WHERE Y'AT?

FREEZE, BILLY! WE'RE BRINGIN' YEW IN FER QUESTIONIN'!
THERE'S A TIME TO FIGHT, A TIME TO RUN, AND A TIME TO HIDE!

I 'CIDE ON THE LAST!
QUICK! SURROUND THE HOUSE! THE REST'A YEW MEN--COME WITH ME!
SLAM!

DOG'S GOT HIS SCENT, SARGE! HE'S IN SOME SORTA SECRET PANEL!

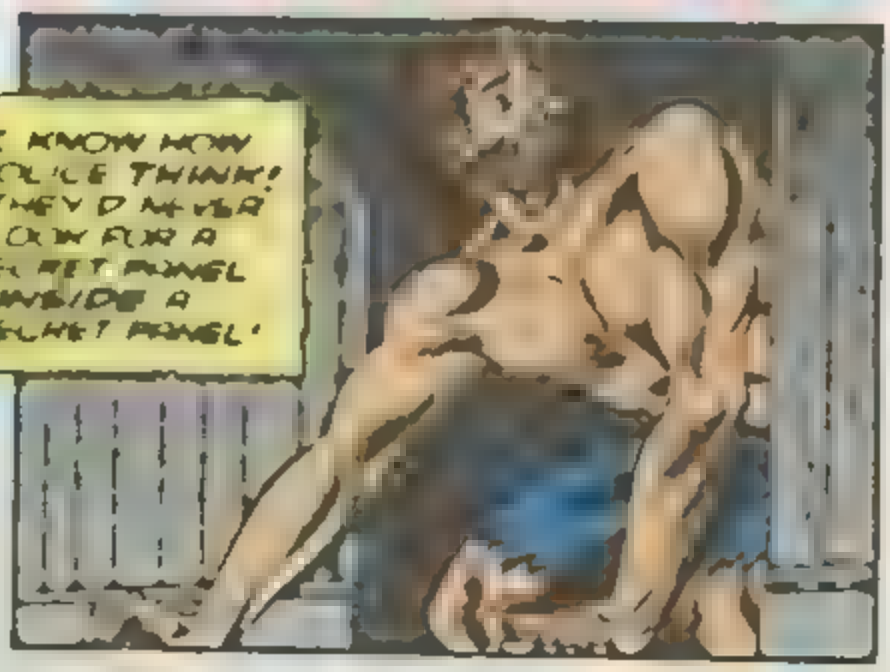
SNIF SNIF
BILLY'S FULL'A TRICKS! BE READY FOR ANYTHING!

WE OPEN ON THE COUNT'A THREE! ONE... TWO...

...THUMB!
H-HEY! IT'S EMPTY!

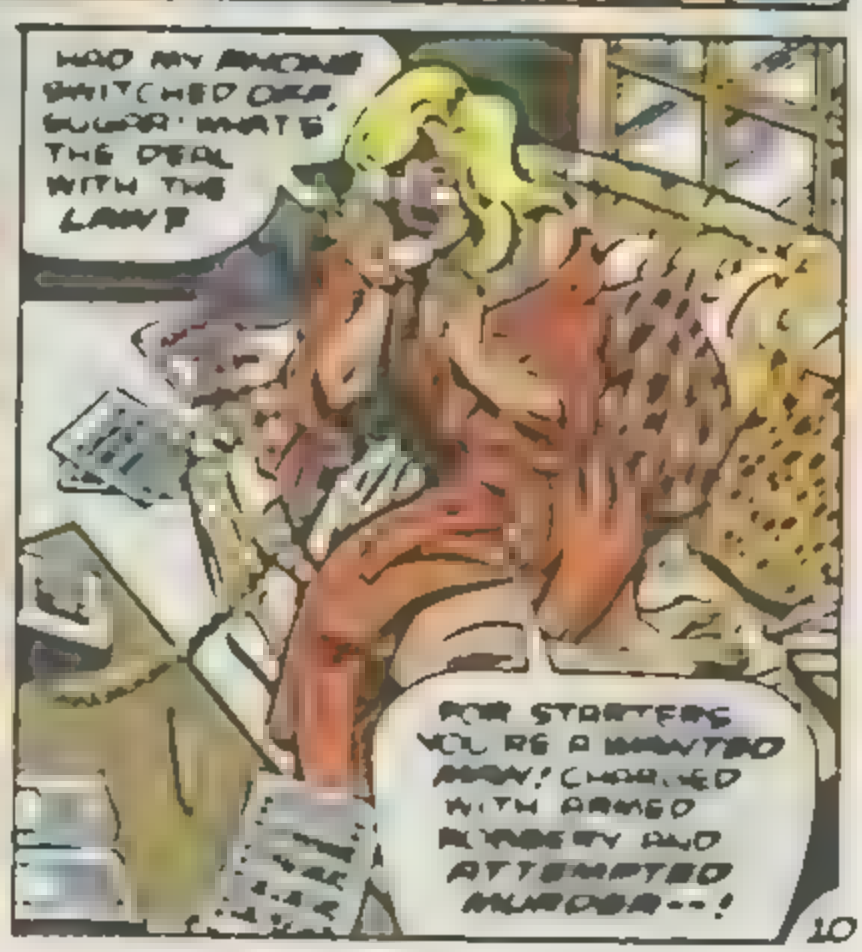
STUPID NUTT--!
?PHWE!
WAP!

C'MON, MEN! LET'S GO!

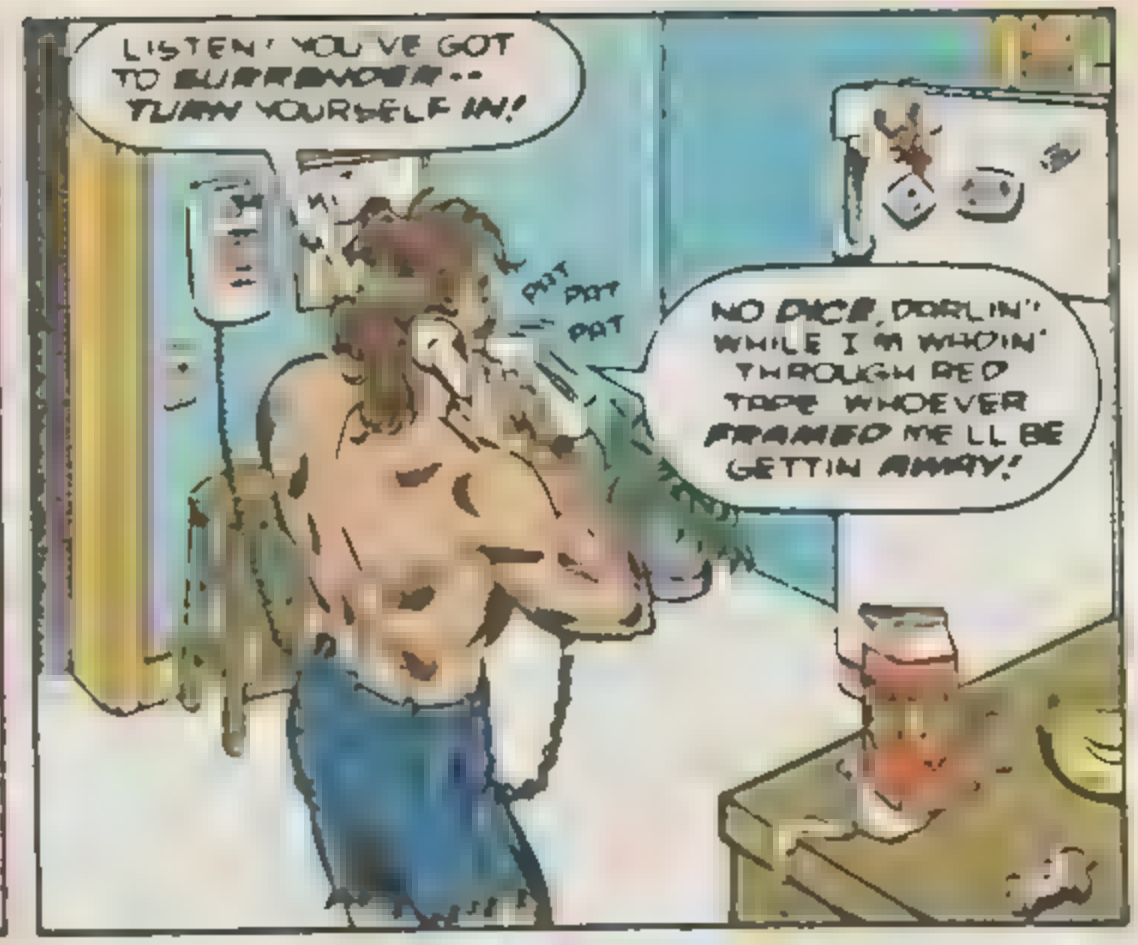

I KNOW HOW POLICE THINK! THEY'D NEVER LOOK FOR A SECRET PANEL INSIDE A SECRET PANEL!

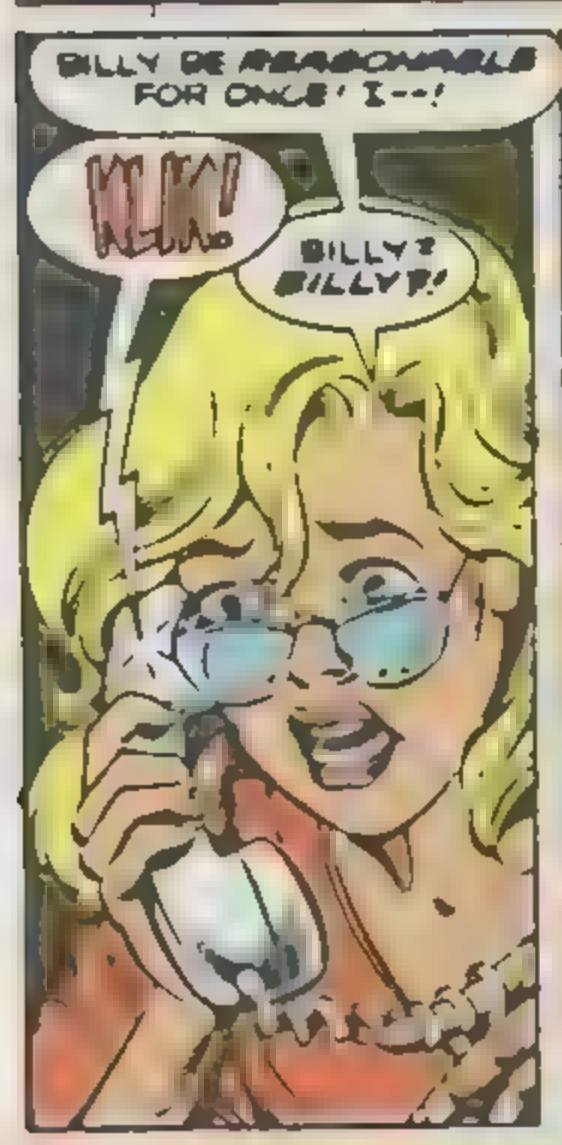
I'M THIRSTY! I'LL SO NEED SOME FAST ANSWERS! LUCKILY ASSISTANT DA HANNIBAL LEE'S MY CHEIR!

AIN'T BILLY! WHO--? YOU'VE BEEN TRYIN TO REACH ME?!


WHO MY PHONE SWITCHED OFF, SUGAR! WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THE LAW?
FOR STARTERS YOU'RE A WANTED MAN! CHARGED WITH ARMED ROBBERY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER--!

W-WH-WHAT?!?

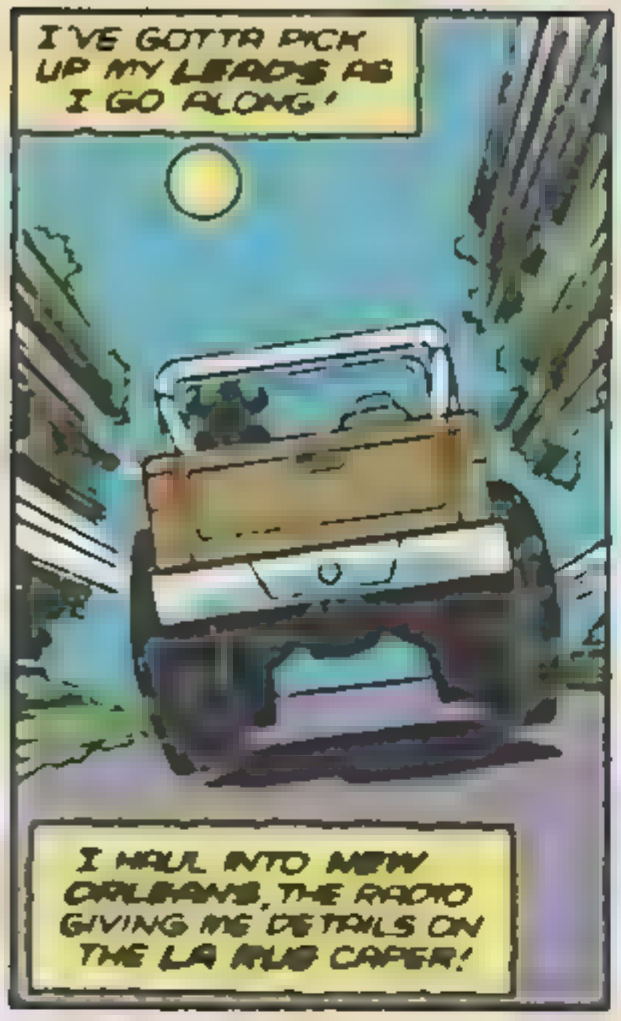

LISTEN! YOU'VE GOT TO SURRENDER-- TURN YOURSELF IN!
PAT PAT PAT
NO DICE, DORLIN'! WHILE I'M WHOIN' THROUGH RED TAPE WHOEVER FRAMED ME'LL BE GETTIN' AWAY!


BILLY BE REASONABLE FOR ONCE! I--!
KLIK!
BILLY? BILLY?!

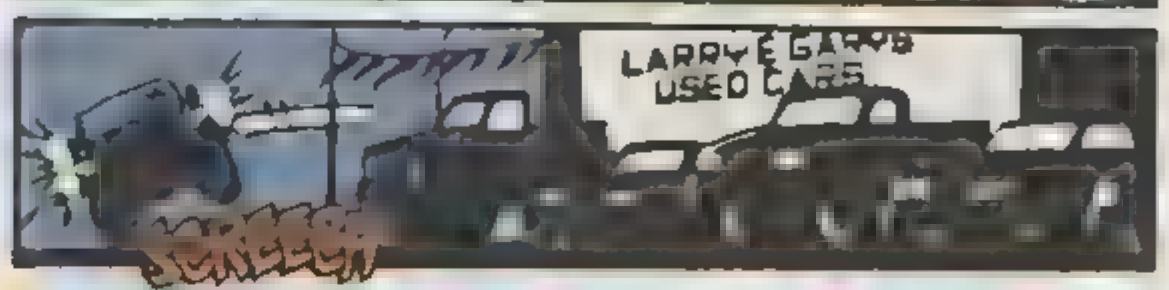
THAT IMPOSSIBLE MAN--!

HE'S GOT TO DO EVERYTHING HIS WAY!

WHICH IS PROBABLY WHY I LOVE HIM SO..!
SIGH


I'VE GOTTA PICK UP MY LEADS AS I GO ALONG!
I HAUL INTO NEW ORLEANS, THE RADIO GIVING ME DETAILS ON THE LA RUB CAPER!

INSIDE THE BIG EASY CITY LIMITS I PICK UP A POLICE ESCORT!


LARRY & GARY'S USED CARS

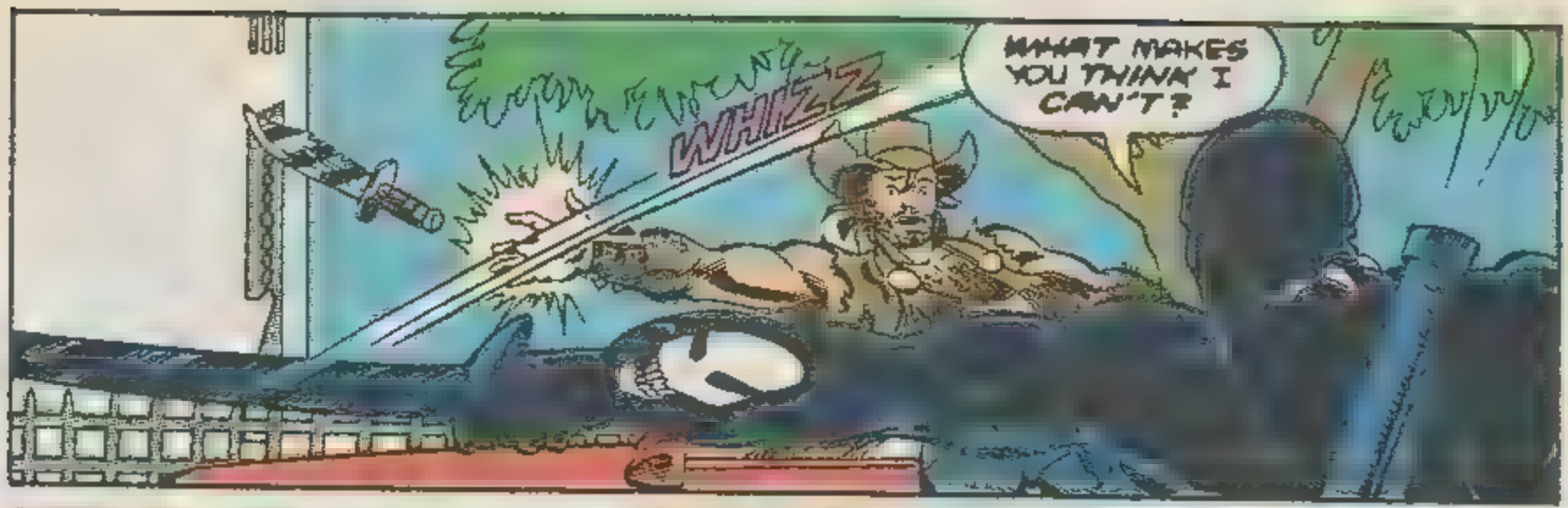
I STASH MY BILLY-MOBILE AN' LOSE 'EM, EASY AS APPLE PIE!

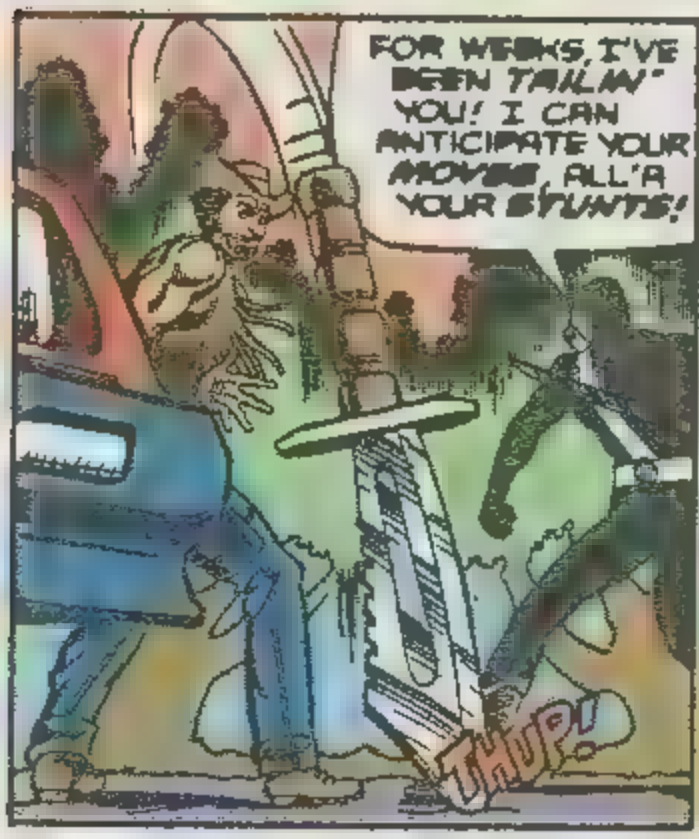
FOR THE NEXT FEW BLOCKS, I HOOF IT!
I CUT DOWN ALLEYS...

TAKE TO THE ROOFTOPS...

...AN' TIPTOE THROUGH BACKYARDS!
ARF?
GRRRHHH...!

I'M AT ANNABEL'S PLACE IN NO TIME! I NEED A SET OF WHEELS! SHE HAS A NEW CAR!
IT'LL DO JUST FINE...!
AS I "JIMMY" THE LOCK, SOMEONE SLIDES UP BEHIND ME!
I DON'T HEAR A THING!
I'M TAKIN' YOU IN, BILLY WEST--DEAD OR ALIVE!
HE'S GOOD, A PRO!
WHO'RE YOU?!
ME?
I'M CALLED... THE BLACK 'GATOR!
HE "GRINS" A SMILE OF DEATH!
MY DREAM'S BECOME A LIVIN' NIGHTMARE!
I GET READY TO PLAY ROUGH!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN TAKE ME?

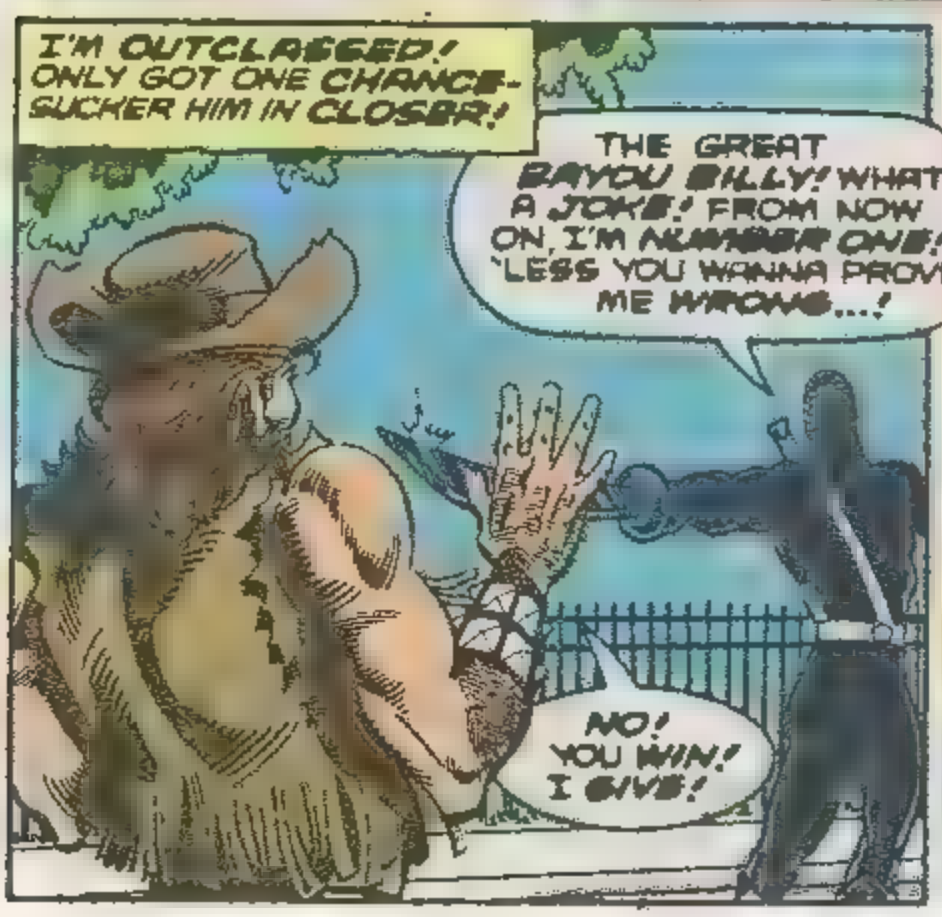

WHIZZZ
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I CAN'T?

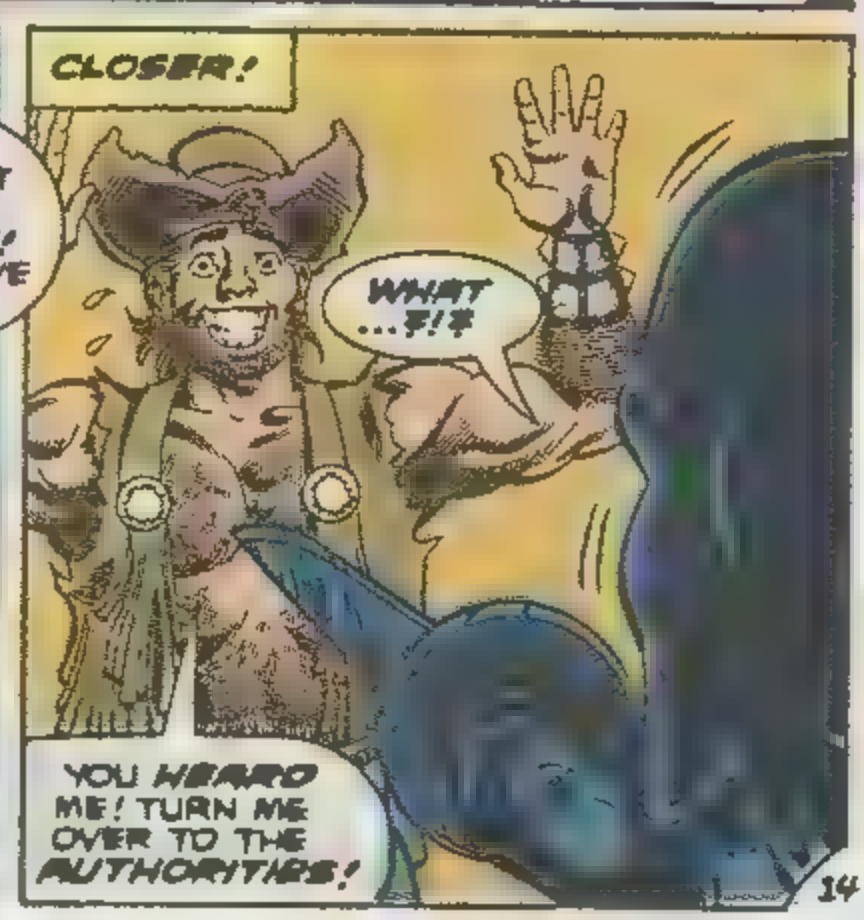

FOR WEEKS, I'VE BEEN TAILIN' YOU! I CAN ANTICIPATE YOUR MOVES, ALL'A YOUR STUNTS!
THUP!

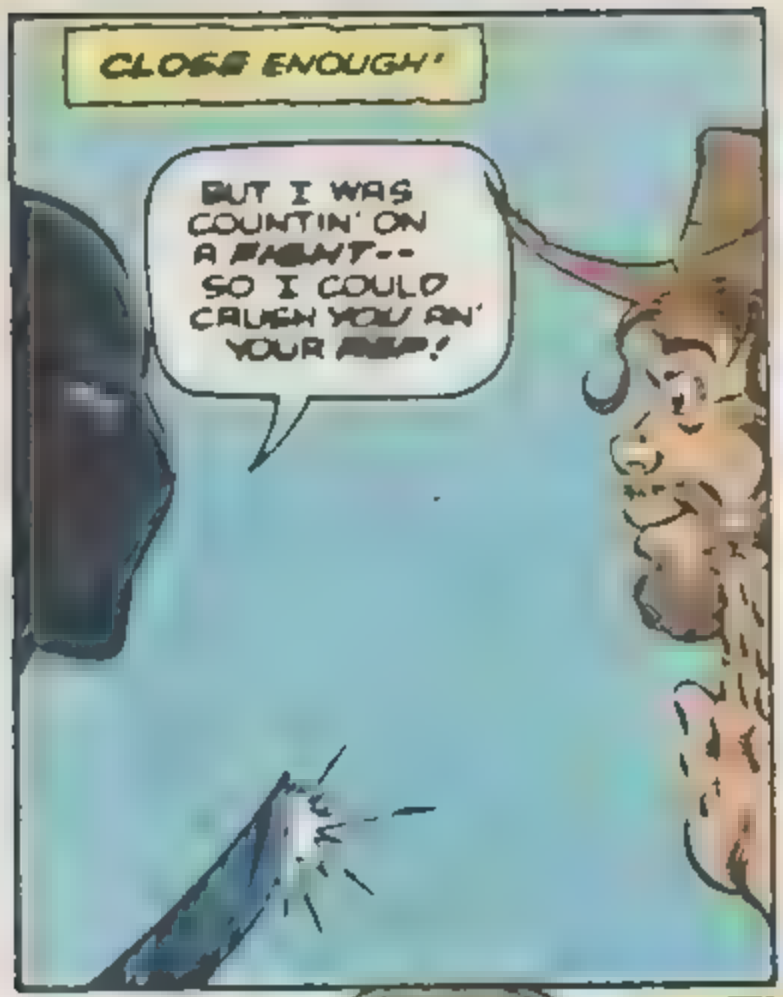
WHILE 'GATOR'S PATTIN' HIMSELF ON THE BACK, I DIP INTO MY BAG O' TRICKS!

...HIT HIM WITH FLASHPOWDER!
NOT THAT IT DOES ANY GOOD!
FIGURED YOU'D TRY TO TEMPORARILY BLIND ME!

HIS EYES ARE AS BLACK AS COAL!
THAT'S WHY I'M WEARIN' POLARIZED CONTACTS!


I'M OUTCLASSED! ONLY GOT ONE CHANCE- SUCKER HIM IN CLOSER!
THE GREAT BAYOU BILLY! WHAT A JOKE! FROM NOW ON, I'M NUMBER ONE! 'LESS YOU WANNA PROVE ME WRONG...!
NO! YOU WIN! I GIVE!


CLOSER!
WHAT ...?!?
YOU HEARD ME! TURN ME OVER TO THE AUTHORITIES!



CONTINUED ON 3rd PAGE FOLLOWING

EDITORIALS FROM THE SWAMP!

SWAMP SPOTLIGHT ON: RAJUN' CAJUN' RICH MARGOPOULOS!

Last time, I provided you an interview with our superior writer Jack Ha pepsodin. He answered further when Dangerous Rick

[illegible]

SCOTT [illegible] "Hey-you"?

RICK [illegible]

SCOTT [illegible]

RICK [illegible]

SCOTT [illegible]

RICK [illegible]

SCOTT [illegible]

RICK [illegible]

SCOTT [illegible]

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SEND YOUR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO
SCOTT PHILLIPS EDITOR
FRANK LAUER'S
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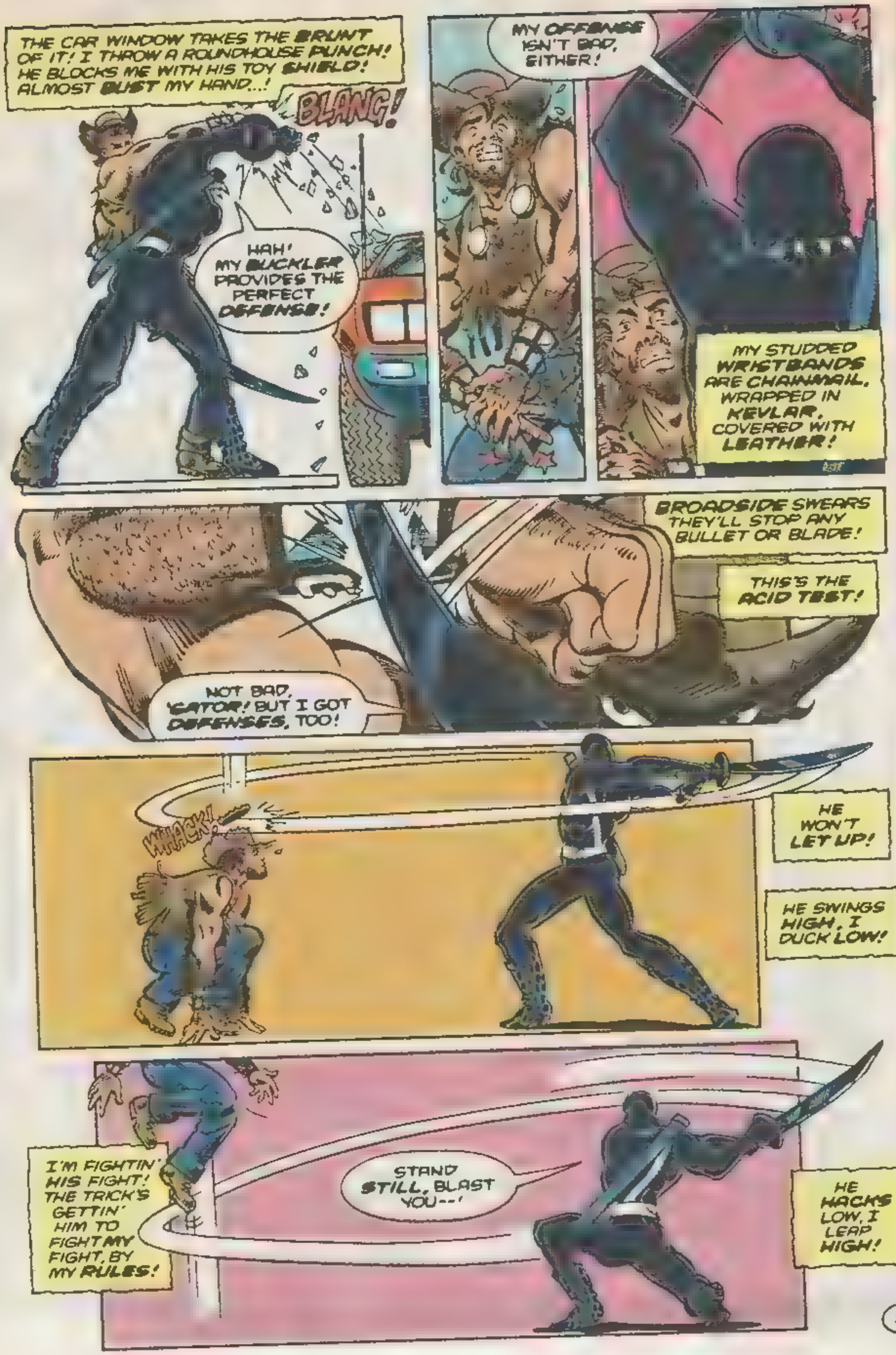

THE CAR WINDOW TAKES THE BRUNT OF IT! I THROW A ROUNDHOUSE PUNCH! HE BLOCKS ME WITH HIS TOY SHIELD! ALMOST BUST MY HAND...!
BLANG!
HAH! MY BUCKLER PROVIDES THE PERFECT DEFENSE!
MY OFFENSE ISN'T BAD, EITHER!
MY STUDDED WRISTBANDS ARE CHAINMAIL, WRAPPED IN KEVLAR, COVERED WITH LEATHER!
BROADSIDE SWEARS THEY'LL STOP ANY BULLET OR BLADE!
THIS'S THE ACID TEST!
NOT BAD, 'GATOR! BUT I GOT DEFENSES, TOO!
WHACK!
HE WON'T LET UP!
HE SWINGS HIGH, I DUCK LOW!
I'M FIGHTIN' HIS FIGHT! THE TRICK'S GETTIN' HIM TO FIGHT MY FIGHT, BY MY RULES!
STAND STILL, BLAST YOU--!
HE HACKS LOW, I LEAP HIGH!

BUT I DON'T COME DOWN! I BACKFLIP ONTO ANNA-BEL'S CAR HOOD!

'SCUSE ME FOR NOT PLAYIN FAIR!

THE 'GATOR TAKES THE BAIT. COMES CHARGIN AT ME! I PULL BACK HER RADIO ANTENNA...

'AN LET HIM HAVE IT SMACK BETWEEN THE EYES!

SOONER OR LATER I'LL WEAR YOU OUT, AND THEN--

YOW!

LORDY, I BET THAT SMARTS, HUH?

HE TAKES A WILD STAB AT ME! I SOMERSAULT OVER HIS HEAD!

YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT, BAYOU BILLY!!

FINE! CAN YOU BREAK A FIFTY?

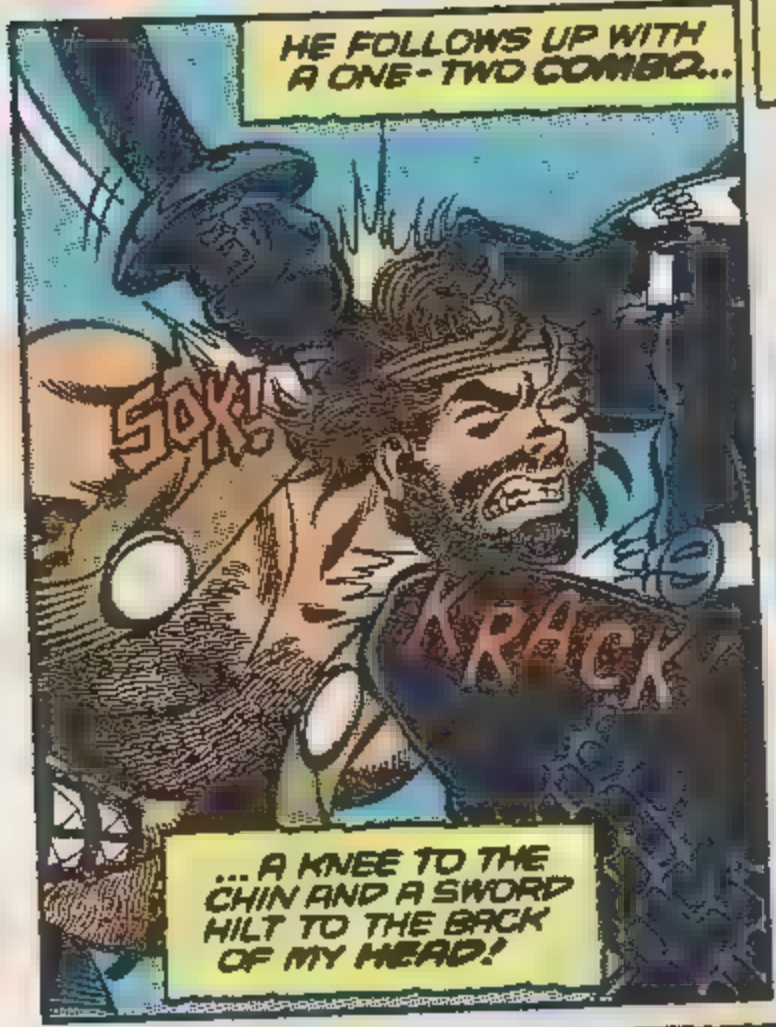
SOON AS I LAND BEHIND HIM, I SINK MY KNUCKLES INTO A PRESSURE POINT!

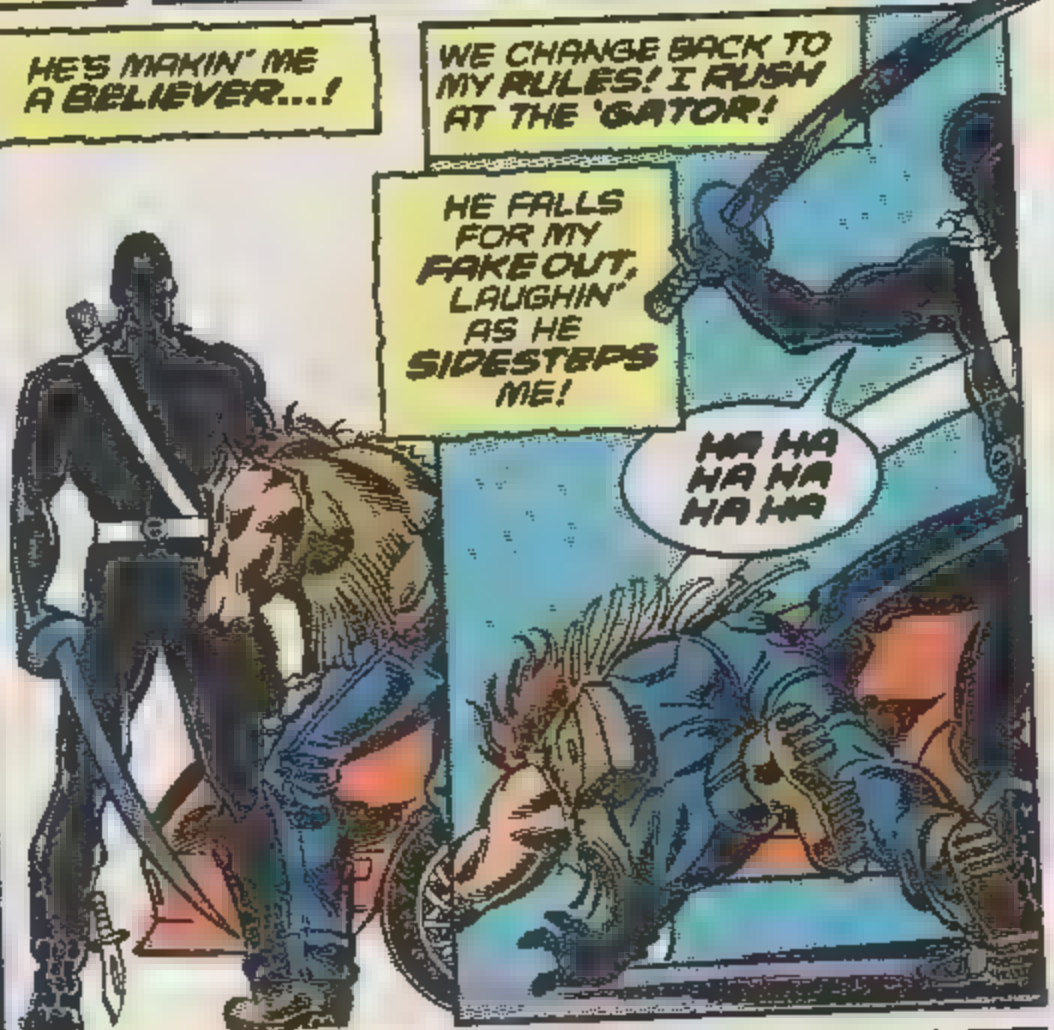
IF NOT YOU'LL HAVE TO BILL ME!

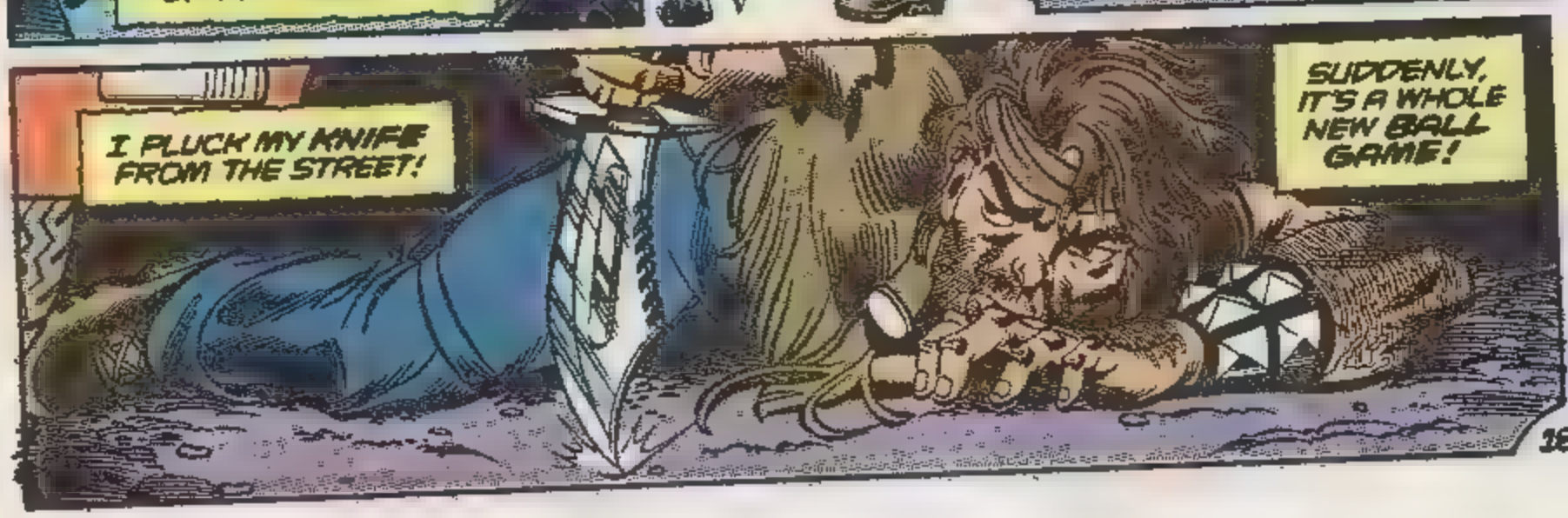
URF--!

THE 'GATOR SWITCHES THE FIGHT BACK TO HIS RULES! HE WHIRLS 'ROUND, SLAMMIN' HIS SHIELD INTO MY FACE!
ARRRR-AAAHHHH!
SPLANG!
I SEE LOTS OF PRETTY STARS!

NOT SKIPPIN' A BEAT, HE SLUGS ME IN THE GUT!
WHUMP!
NEXT TIME I TELL YOU I'M THE BEST, BELIEVE IT!


HE FOLLOWS UP WITH A ONE-TWO COMBO...
SOK!
KRACK
...A KNEE TO THE CHIN AND A SWORD HILT TO THE BACK OF MY HEAD!

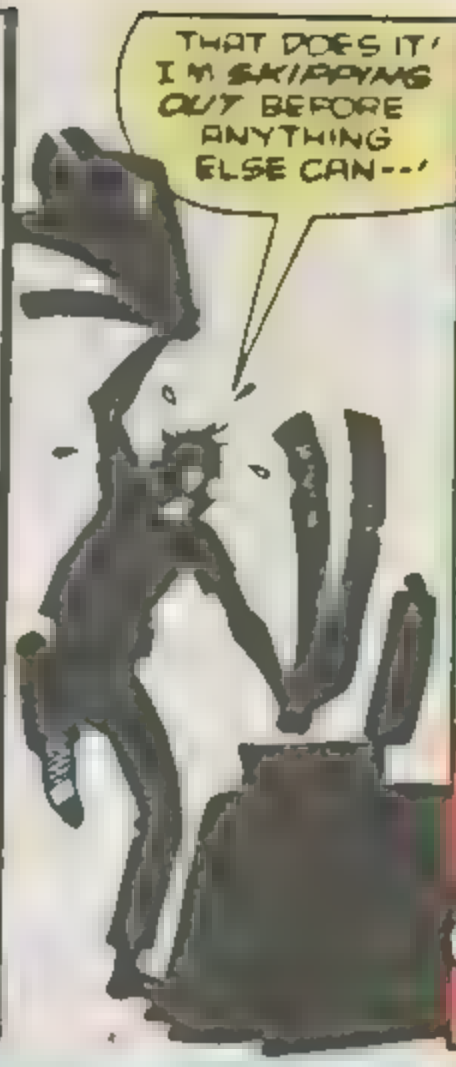

HE'S MAKIN' ME A BELIEVER...!
WE CHANGE BACK TO MY RULES! I RUSH AT THE 'GATOR!
HE FALLS FOR MY FAKE OUT, LAUGHIN' AS HE SIDESTEPS ME!
HA HA HA HA HA HA


I PLUCK MY KNIFE FROM THE STREET!
SUDDENLY, IT'S A WHOLE NEW BALL GAME!

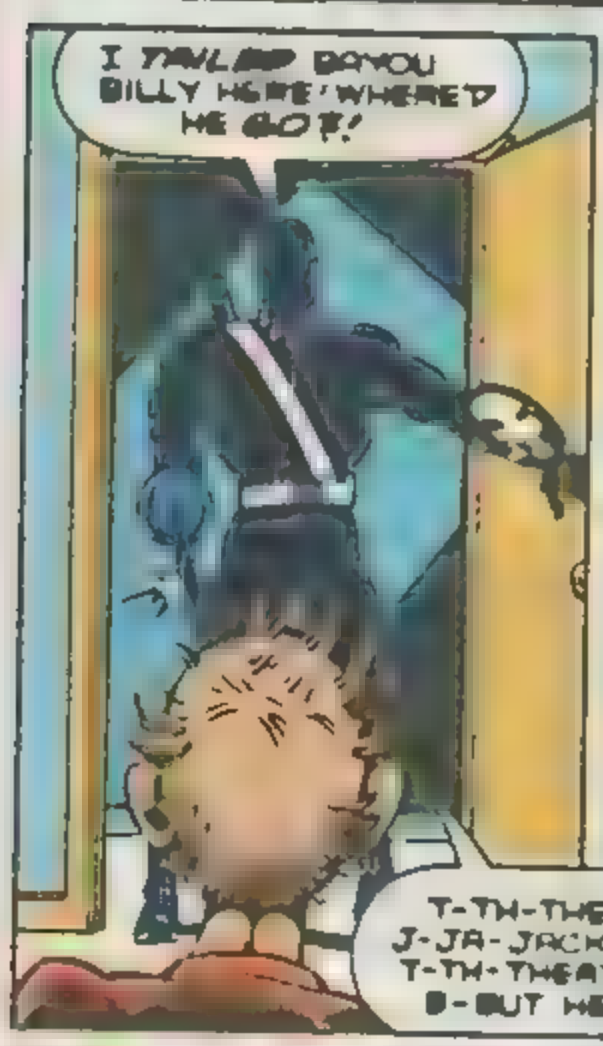
IN AN INSTANT, I PRY THE FRONT WHEEL COVER LOOSE!
WRINKL
MY BLADE DANCES THROUGH THE AIR!
HE EASILY BATS IT ASIDE...
...LEAVIN' HIMSELF WIDE OPEN!
YOU'RE THE BEST ALL RIGHT, 'GATOR!
I CLIP HIM SOLID WITH THE HUBCAP!
CLONK!
THE BEST TARGET, THAT IS...!
G-GA-GAK!!
EEEEEEEEEEEEEE
CAN'T LEAVE THE 'GATOR BEHIND TO THREATEN ANNA-BEL...!
HE'S DOWN BUT NOT OUT! POLICE SIRENS'RE IN THE DISTANCE!
BILLY! WAIT! TURN YOURSELF IN--!
I HOT-WIRE HER CAR AND STEAL IT! I LET THE CREEP HITCH A RIDE!
BILLY--!!
EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

SEVERAL BLOCKS LATER, I SEE A PILE OF GARBAGE BAGS! TIME TO UNLOAD THE EXCESS BAGGAGE!
I TAKE THE CORNER HARD...!
GAAAA!!
EASIEST 'GATOR I EVER SKINNED!
HEY! COME BACK! THAT'S MY DELIVERY VAN!
BAYOU BILLY ISN'T GETTIN' RID OF ME THAT EASY!
I GO VISIT SNITCH! HE'S RECENTLY MOVED! IT'S MY JOB TO KEEP TABS ON HIM!
HE'D RAT OUT HIS OWN GRAN' MAW FOR THE RIGHT PRICE...
...OR IF YOU LEAN ON HIM ENOUGH!
I USE THE FIRE ESCAPE TO DROP IN ON HIM! HE BOLTS FOR THE FRONT DOOR!
OH, NO! NOT BAYOU BILLY AGAIN--!
DON'T EVEN THINK 'BOUT RUNNIN' OUT ON ME!
I STOP HIM DEAD IN HIS TRACKS!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO THINK, SNITCH!
G-GULP!
TALK! WHO SET ME UP?
TH-THE GORDONS HIRED SOME ACTOR T-TO BE YOU!
HE... HE'S AT THE OLD JACKSON THEATER WITH LA RUE'S DOUGH!

THAT'S ALL I KNOW! YOU GOTTA BELIEVE ME...!
I DO, SNITCH! YOU'RE TOO SCARED TO CON ME!


THAT DOES IT! I'M SKIPPING OUT BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE CAN--!

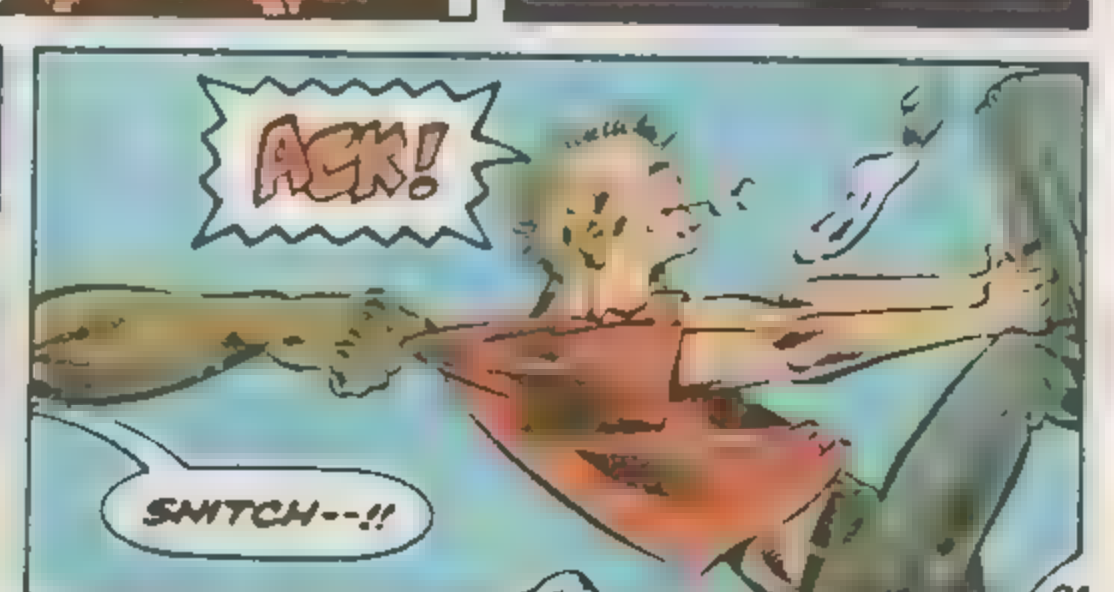
BAWHAM!
N-NOW WHAT?!


I TOLD DAYOU BILLY HERE! WHERE'D HE GO?!
T-TH-THE J-JA-JACKSON T-TH-THEATER! B-BUT HE'S...

GONE? VANISHED LIKE A GHOST--!

AND I'D BETTER PULL A VANISHING ACT, TOO!

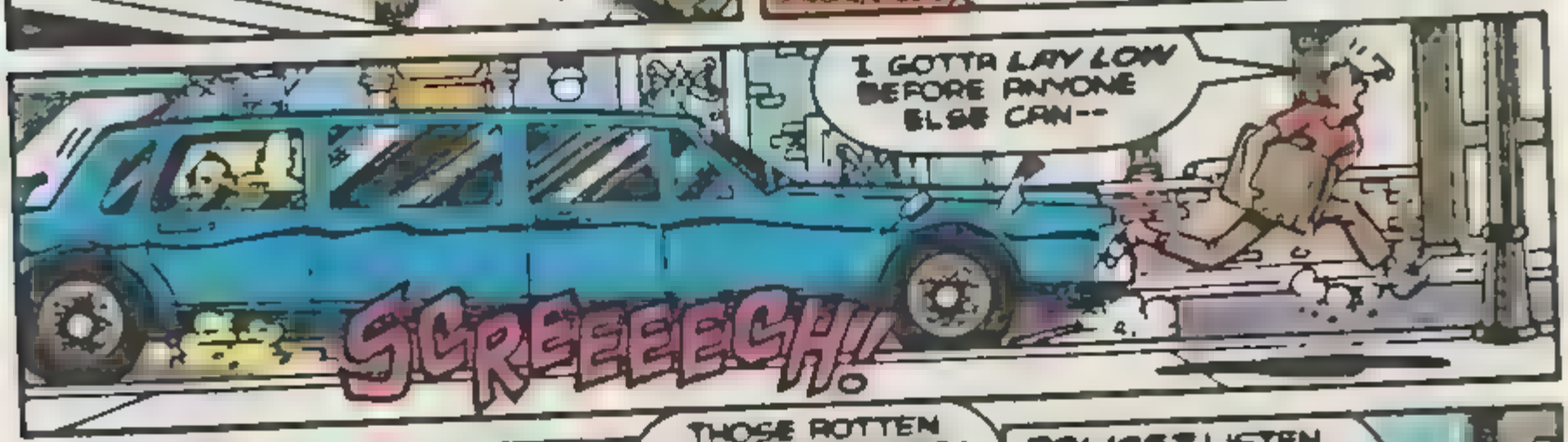
I'VE GOTTA FIND A NEW LINE OF WORK AND--


ACK!
SNITCH--!!

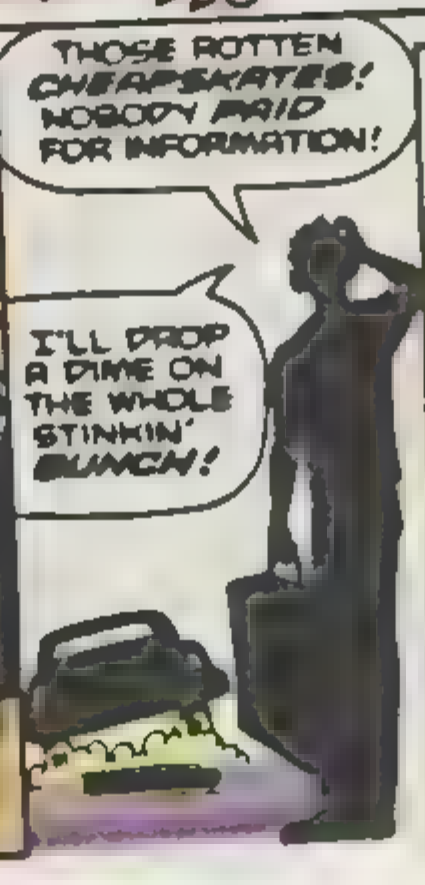
BILLY'S TEAM... BROADSIDE, TRACKER AND SURESHOT!
HOW'D YOU FIND ME?
WE'RE LOOKING FOR A GUN-TOTING BOGUS BILLY! GOT ANY GOOD IDEAS?

TRY THE JACKSON THEATER!
PAT PAT PAT
THAT'S A GOOD SNITCH!

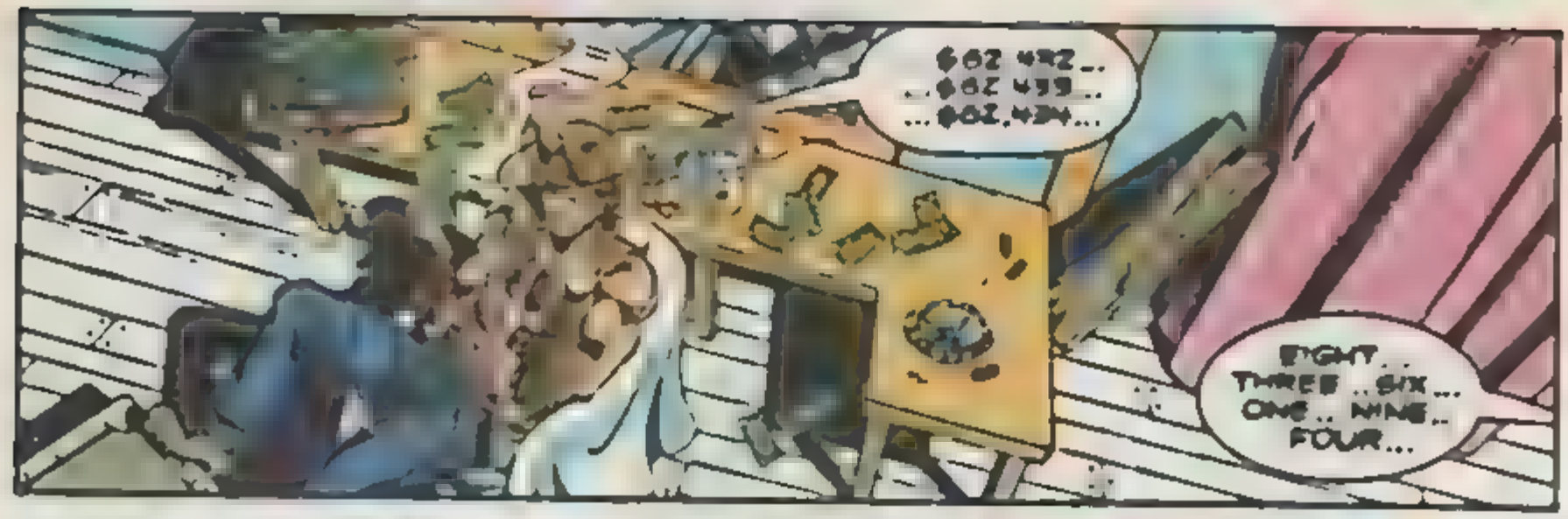
SMACK!
A WORD OF ADVICE, FRIEND! NEXT TIME DON'T LEAVE YOUR FORWARDING ADDRESS WITH YOUR OLD LANDLADY...!
I am smart
than avera
GEEZ--! IT'S GETTING SO YOU CAN'T TRUST ANYBODY!!


I GOTTA LAY LOW BEFORE ANYONE ELSE CAN--
SCREEEECH!

PSST! SNITCH! C'MERE!
YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO ASK, MR LA RUE! GO TO THE JACKSON THEATER!


THOSE ROTTEN CHEAPSKATES! NOBODY PAID FOR INFORMATION!
I'LL DROP A DIME ON THE WHOLE STINKIN' BUNCH!

POLICE? LISTEN. THERE'S SOMETHIN' COMING DOWN AT THE JACKSON THEATER...!


$62,482...
...$62,433...
...$62,424...
EIGHT... THREE... SIX... ONE... NINE... FOUR...

OH NOW YOU MADE ME LOSE COUNT! I--!

PARTNERSHIP! IF I'M THE ONLY ONE HERE THEN WHO--?

B-BA-BAR-BAYOU B-BILLY!
IN THE FLESH!

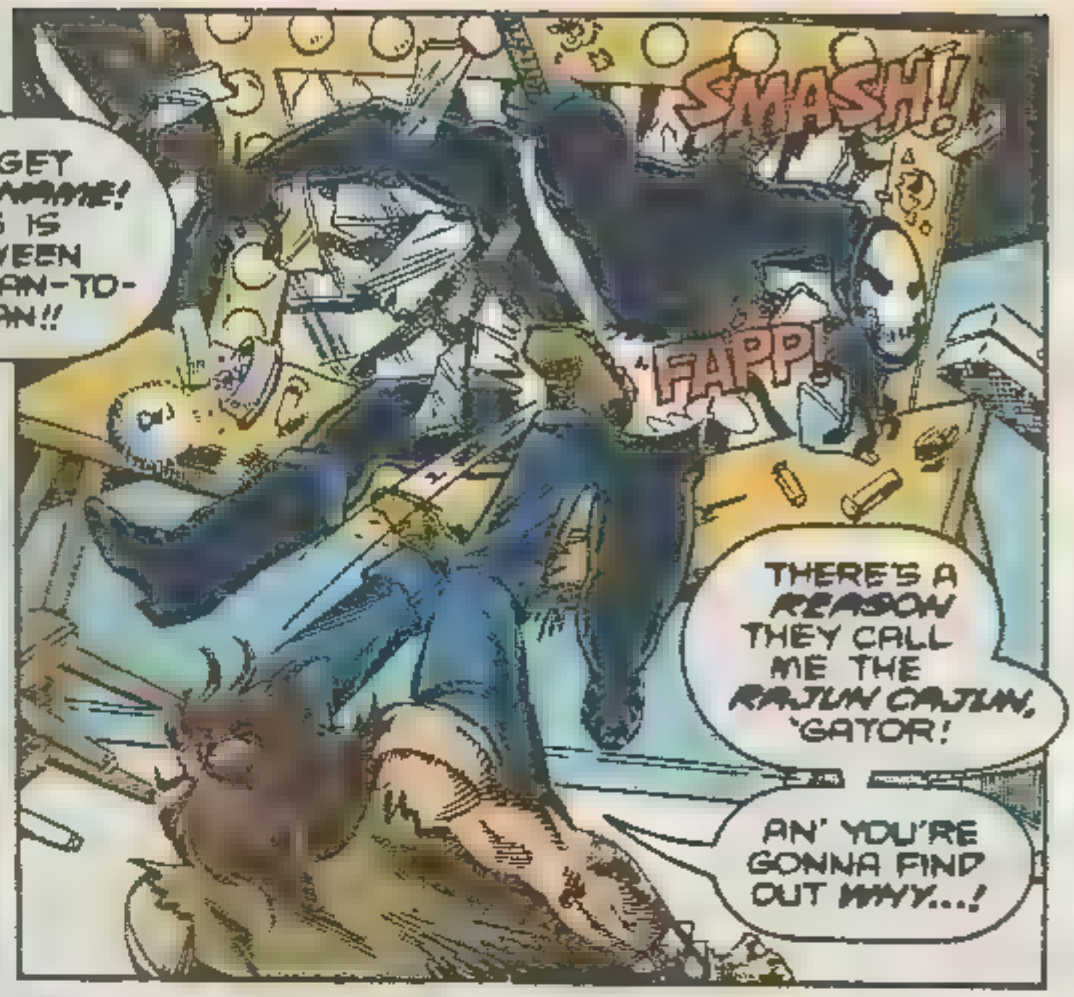
BEFORE I CAN BEAT THE STUFFIN'S OUTTA MY DOUBLE, I HEAR A FAMILIAR GROWL!
WE GOT SOME UN-FINISHED BUSINESS, BILLY, YOU AN' I!
BLAST--! IT'S THE GATOR!

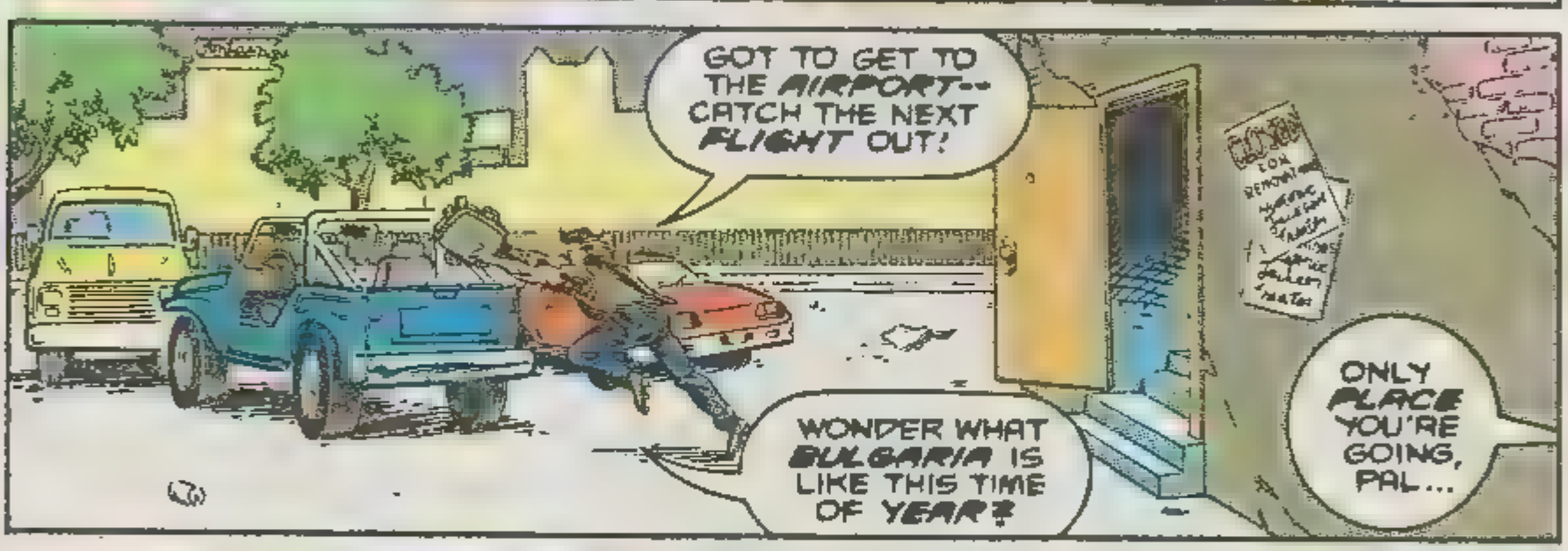
I SNATCH THE ACTOR'S HAT AND CIGAR!
HE WANTS TO PRE-TEND HE'S ME, I'M GONNA PRETEND I'M HIM!
HUHA--?

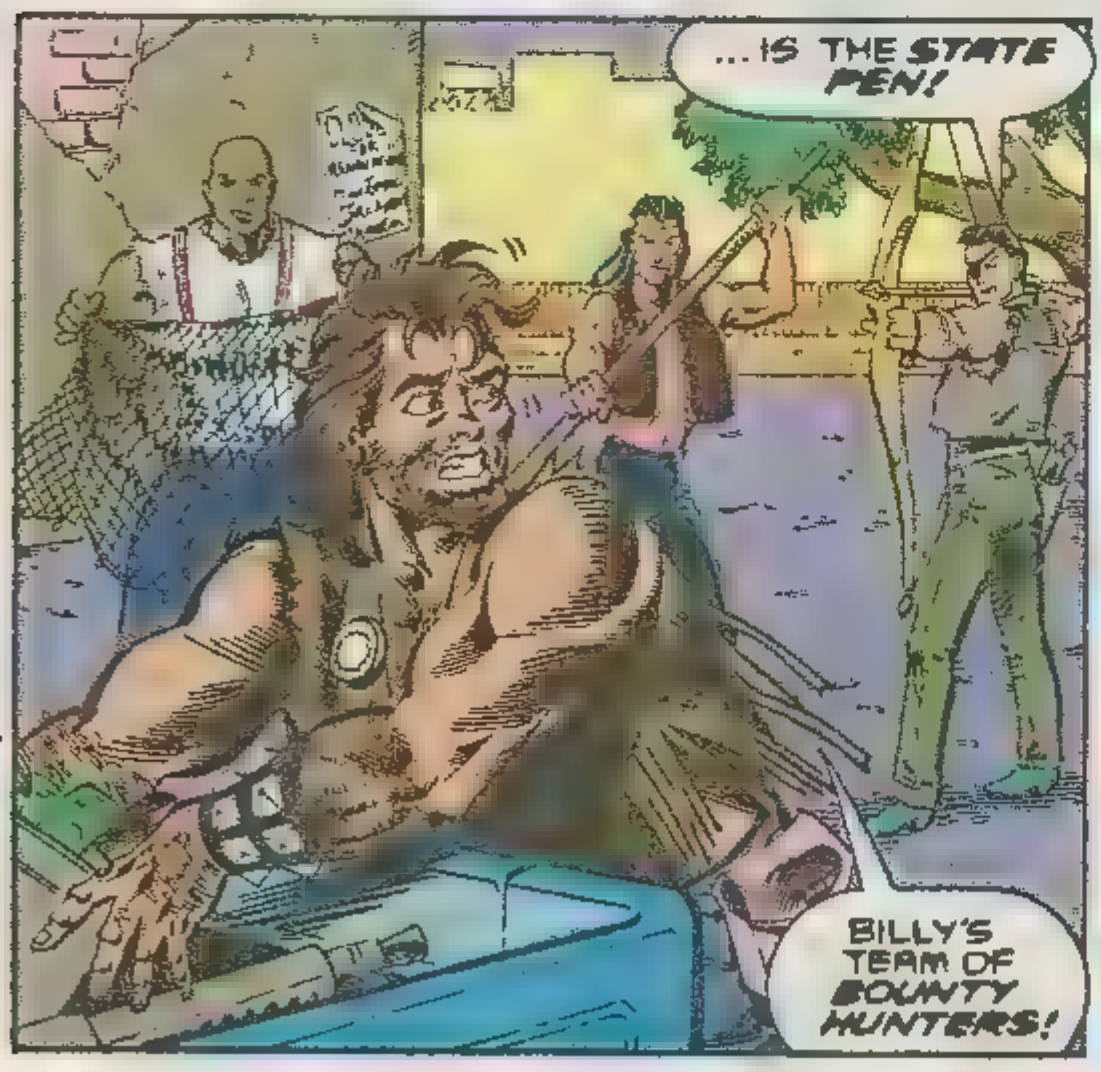
I MAKE THE SWITCH JUST IN TIME!
TWO BILLYS!
HE'S THE ONE YOU WANT, THE REAL BAYOU BILLY!
?!?

THINK YOU'RE SLICK, EH? WELL NOT SLICK ENOUGH!
YOU'RE MAKING A DREADFUL MISTAKE!
I'M NOT..
LURK!
THE WAY YOU TOOK THAT PUNCH--! YOU'RE NOT BAYOU BILLY!
THAT'S RIGHT... I WAS TRYING.. TO TELL YOU!
THEN, YOU'RE THE REAL BAYOU BILLY!
GUESS WHAT THEY SAY IS TRUE, 'GATOR!
YOU'RE NOT AS DUMB AS YOU LOOK!
WHILE YOU GENTLEMEN SETTLE YOUR DISPUTE, I'LL BE LEAVING NOW!
WHY YOU--!
PUNT!
HE, WHAT'S SPEAK UP! DON'T MUMBLE!
NO, YOU'RE NOT!
YES, HE IS!
THAT'S MY CUE!

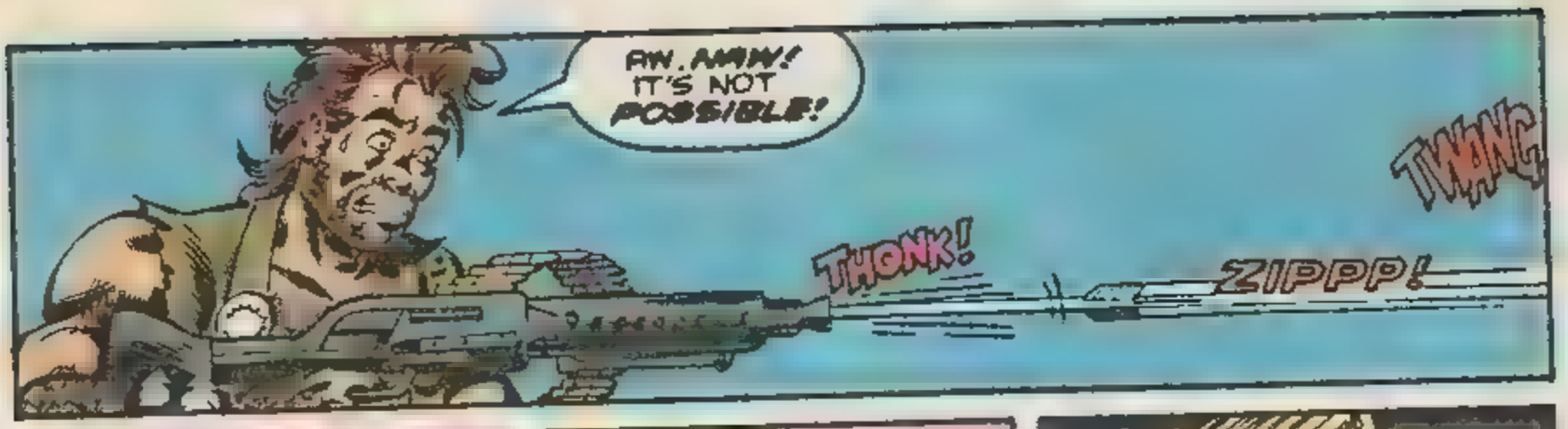
YOU FOOL! HE CAN CLEAR MY NAME! YOU'RE LETTIN' HIM GET AWAY!
FORGET YOUR NAME! THIS IS BETWEEN US! MAN-TO-MAN!!


SMASH!
FAPP!
THERE'S A REASON THEY CALL ME THE RAJUN CAJUN, 'GATOR!
AN' YOU'RE GONNA FIND OUT WHY...!

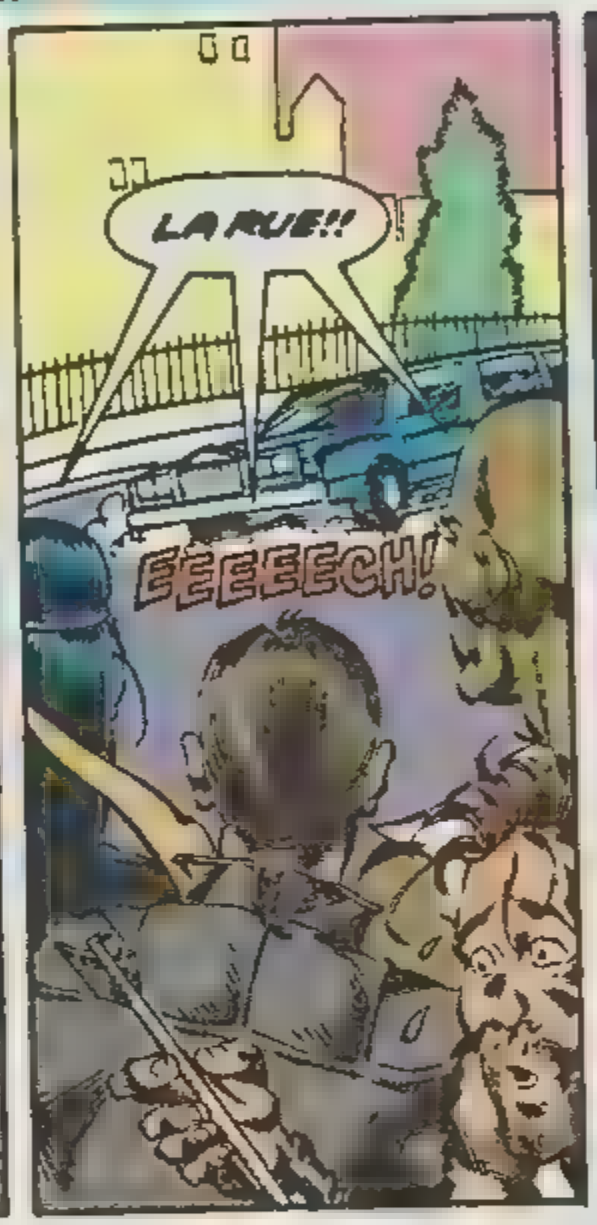

GOT TO GET TO THE AIRPORT-- CATCH THE NEXT FLIGHT OUT!
WONDER WHAT BULGARIA IS LIKE THIS TIME OF YEAR?
ONLY PLACE YOU'RE GOING, PAL...

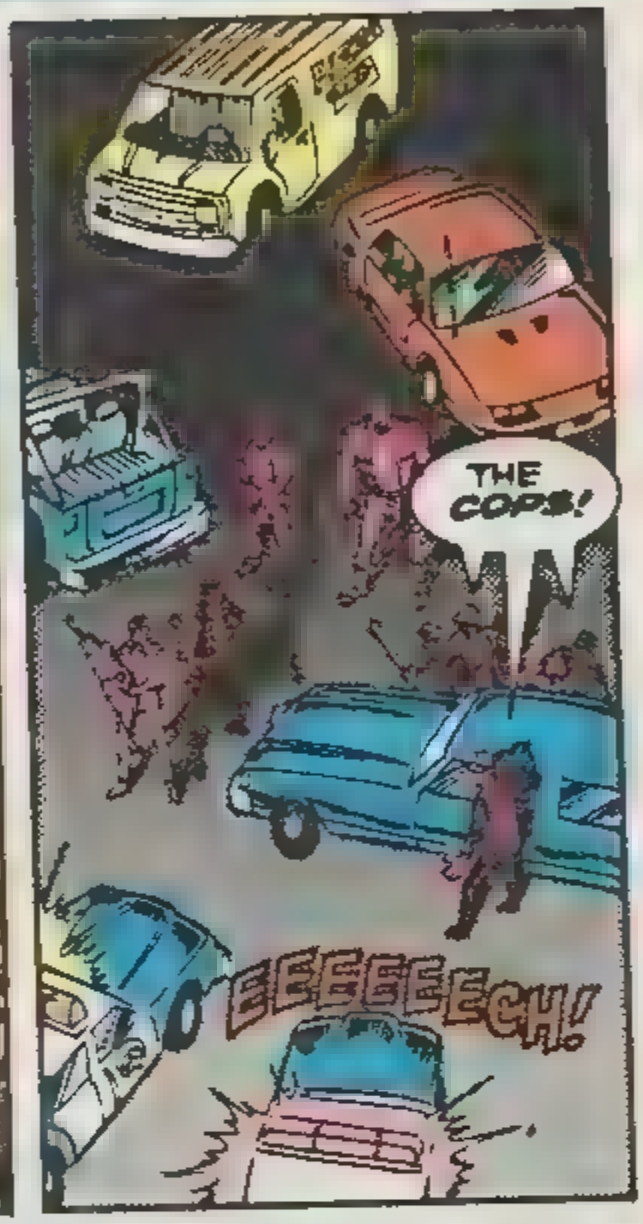

...IS THE STATE PEN!
BILLY'S TEAM OF BOUNTY HUNTERS!

TOO BAD I'VE GOT THE UPPER HAND!
DON'T FORCE ME TO USE THIS!

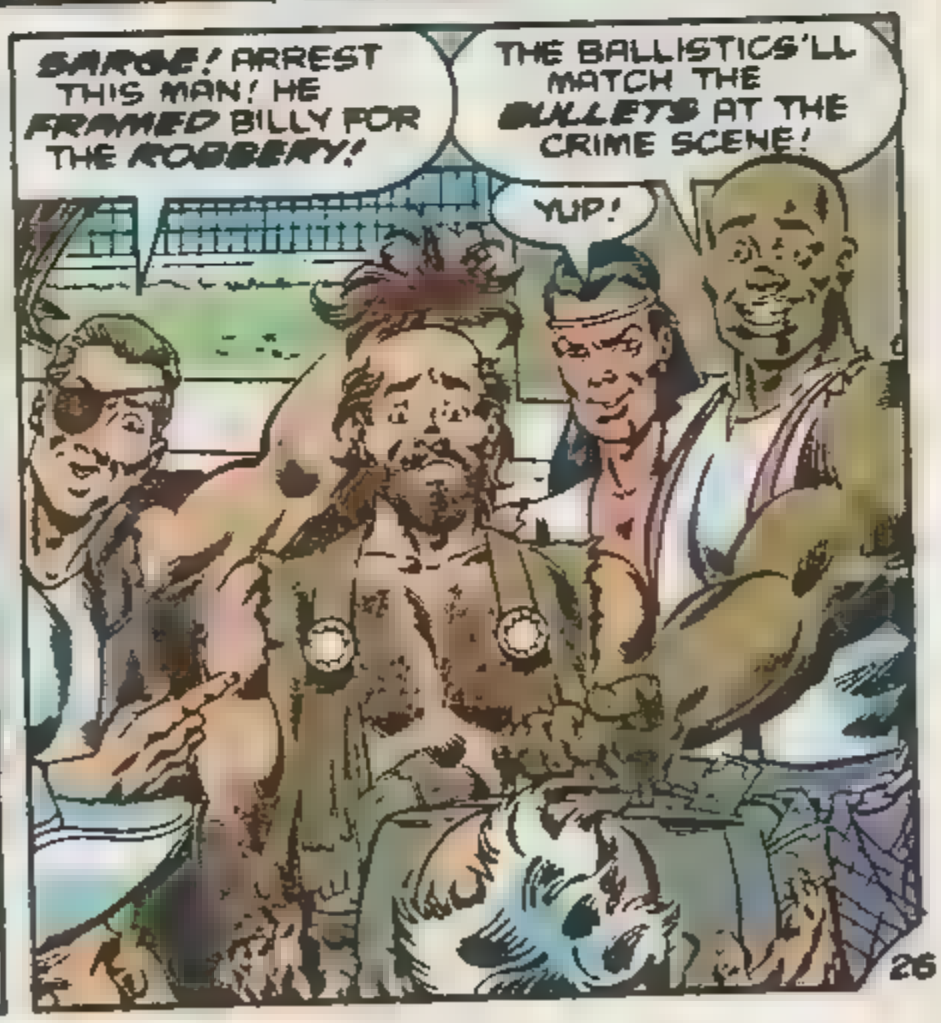

AW, MAN! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
TWANG
THONK!
ZIPPP!

SURE IT IS! THEY DO IT IN THE FUNNY BOOKS ALL THE TIME!


LA RUE!!
EEEEECH!


THE COPS!
EEEEEECH!

SHERIFF! ARREST THEM! THEY STOLE MY MONEY!


SARGE! ARREST THIS MAN! HE FRAMED BILLY FOR THE ROBBERY!
THE BALLISTICS'LL MATCH THE BULLETS AT THE CRIME SCENE!
YUP!

BUT, BUT WHAT ABOUT MY MONEY?!
WE'RE HOLDING IT FOR EVIDENCE! AND IT BETTER BE CLEAN, LA RUE...

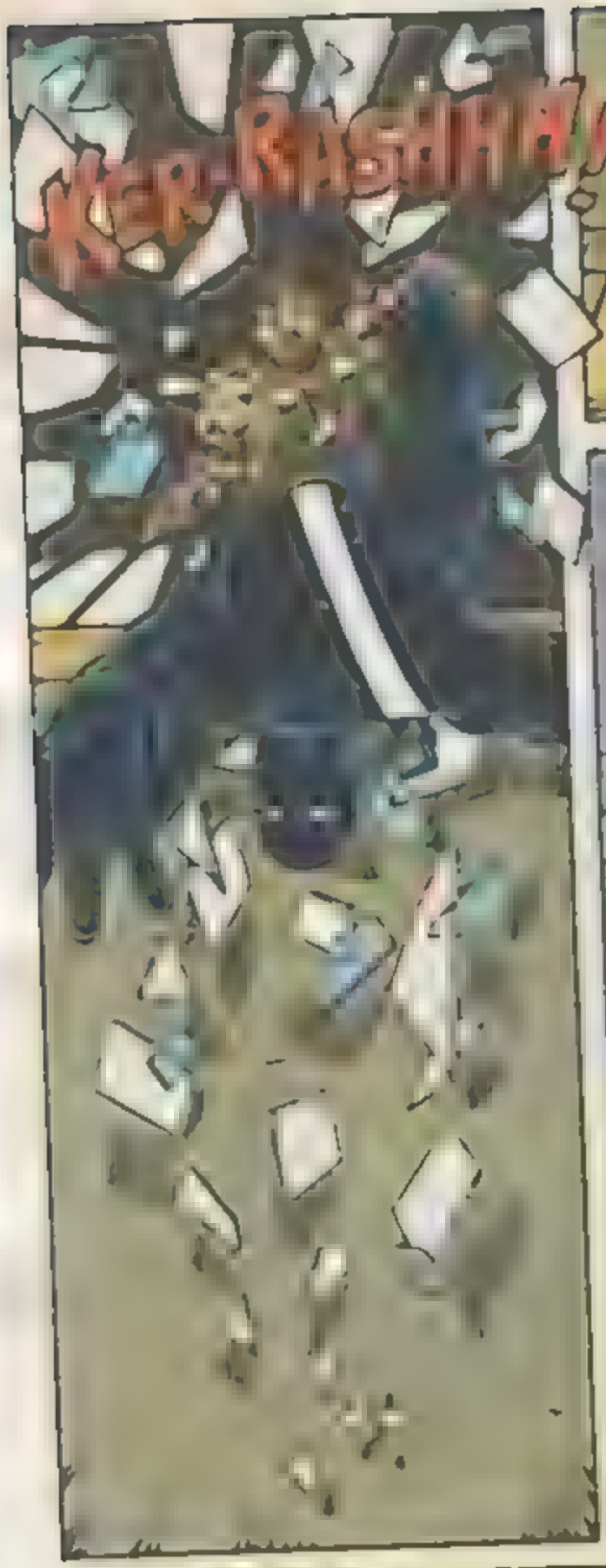
THINK IT'S TOO LATE TO TRY FOR THE MINOR LEAGUES?!
...OR YOU'RE IN DEEP, DEEP TROUBLE!

BIFF
WHAP
BAM
SOK
WHERE'S BILLY NOW, SURE-SHOT?
SOUNDS TO ME, ANNABEL, THAT HE'S TYING UP SOME LOOSE ENDS INSIDE!

SWACK!
I...

WHUMP!
...HAVE HAD...

...ENOUGH OF YOU!!
FRAK!

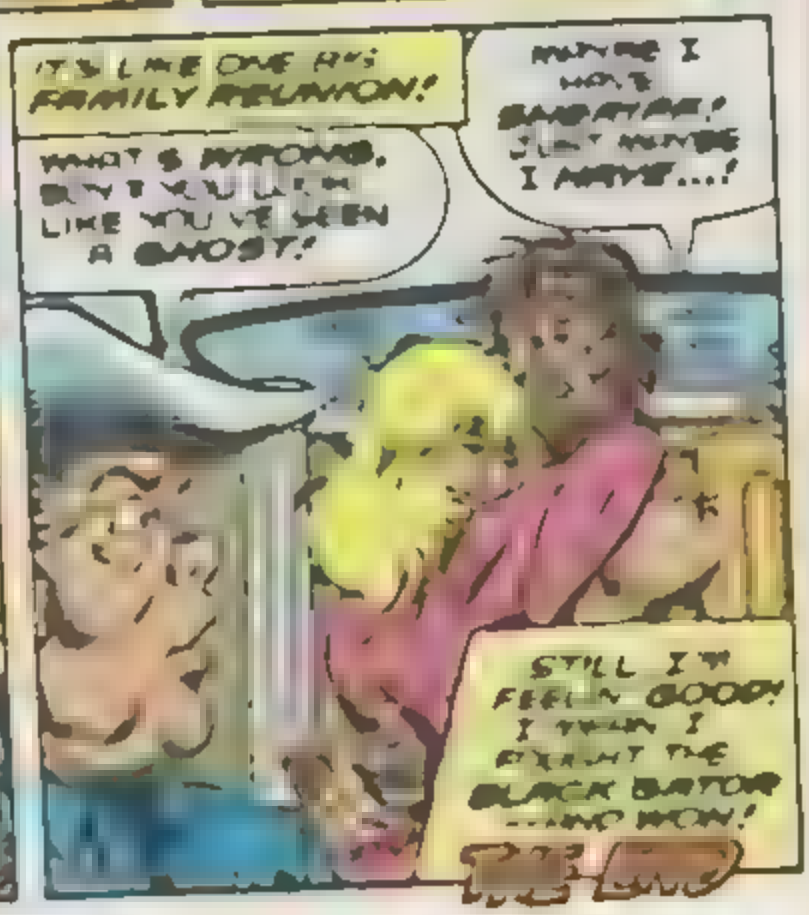

KER-RASHHH!

DIDN'T MEAN TO BLUD HIM SO HARD! HE'S

DON'T VANISHED LIKE A GHOST--!

LOOKS LIKE MAMA JAMBO MIGHT VE TOUGHT HIM TOO MUCH...!

I STAGGER OUTSIDE WHERE ALL OF THE OTHERS ARE THERE TO GREET ME!
BILLY! THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
BUT WHO WERE YOU FIGHTING WITH?
IT'S A LONG STORY, DARLIN'!


IT'S LIKE ONE HUGE FAMILY REUNION!
WHAT'S WRONG, BUT YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST!
MAYBE I HAVE SOMETIME! JUST MAYBE I HAVE...!
STILL I'M FEELIN' GOOD! I THINK I FOUGHT THE BLACK GATOR ...AND WON!

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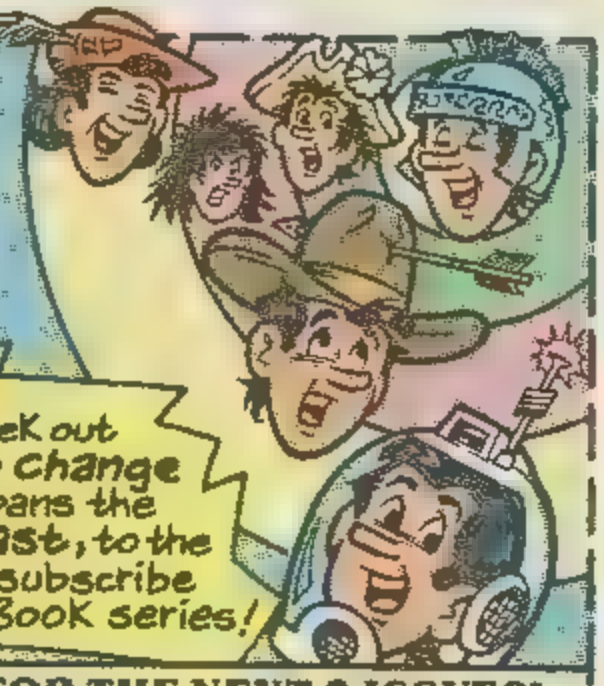

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SEND YOUR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS TO:

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Dear Swamp Sayin's,
I just wrote to say how much I like your comic. Please have more of Swamp Gas "AHHH" Charlie and make this the best Bayou book by making this comic monthly! Please! Please! Please!

Bob Lipski
Minneapolis, Mn.

"Best Bayou Book"—Gee, sounds like a phrase I ought to "coin"! Seriously though Bob, I'm glad you're enjoying our "swamp stompin'" action. Hopefully, last issue's story satisfied your appetite (at least temporarily) for more adventures with Swamp Gas Charlie. You did buy issue #4, didn't you Bob? Bob?!

Dear Billy,
I started reading Bayou Billy comics about a month ago and must tell you I really enjoy them. I recently bought issue #2 and would like to ask you a couple of things. First of all, what happened to Hurricane Hank? Did he live or die? Will Billy ever find Papa Jambo again? Hopefully I'll find out in an upcoming issue. In the meantime, I'd love to see a massive war with Billy and the gang wasting the Gordons. I've got just one more small question: If Billy buys a house, is it going to be by the swamp? Well, I didn't write just to ask questions, but to let you know that Bayou Billy is my favorite comic. Well, enough from me now.

Adam Harris
Lake Oswego, OR

Hey, Adam! Happy to hear you're enjoying the adventures of America's favorite rajun' cajun'! If you read issue #3, you know by now that Billy's new house is most definitely situated in the swamp—so deep in the swamp that most people can't find it! Last issue, Billy discovered that Hurricane Hank was partly responsible for his wife's death. You can bet your "bayou boots" Billy will be doing everything in his power to discover the fate of ol' Hurricane. Finally, if you've read this issue (you're not one of those fans who reads the letter's page first, are you?!) you've witnessed the return of Papa Jambo, as we slowly, but surely, reveal more of Billy's origin.

Dear Bayou Billy,
I loved "Bayou Billy" No. 3. The fight between Blackie Blue and Swamp Gas Charlie was the best. But one question: is Blackie Blue's crime partner the one and only Joker?

In hope for the next comic,
Kris "The" Reisy

Sorry Kris, but the Joker's dead. Now there's only...Blackie Blue!

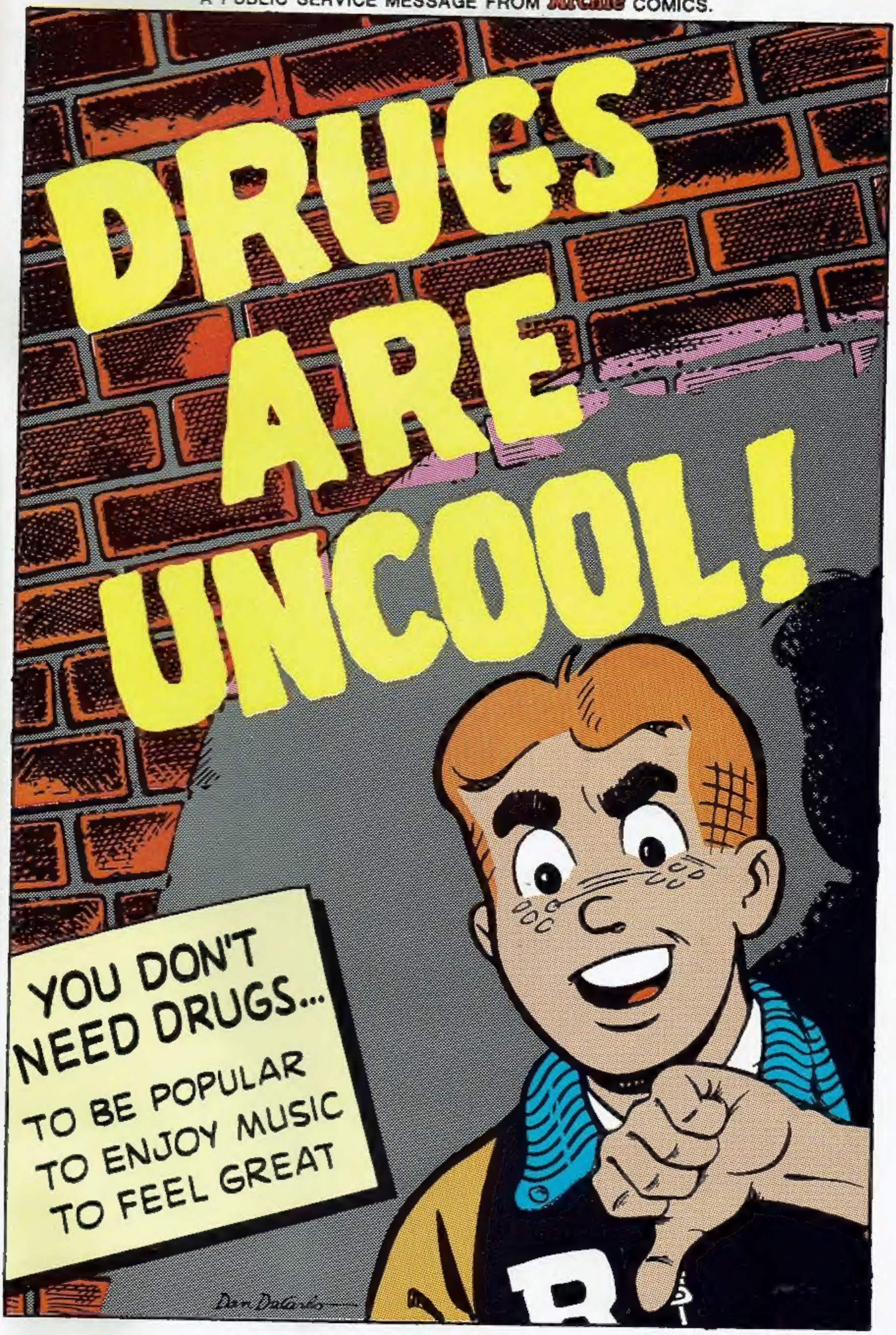
Dear Archie Comics,
I've just read Bayou Billy #3, and it is awesome! I think Blackie Blue will be a formidable enemy for Billy in the future. And what's with this "AHHH" Swamp Gas Charlie Gaskill? I think the Gordons hired him to kill Laurie. That's why he keeps escaping. But that's just my opinion. I can't wait to see what Billy's Quest will be about!

Keep it up
Daniel Melvin
Columbus, OH

Good try Dan, but no cigar! As we discovered last issue, Hurricane Hank's the guilty party. You're in good company though, because Billy had the same wrong guess as you. Hmm... you think like Bayou Billy...you like his adventures...maybe you could be his new partner?! Ask your folks before you go shambling through the swamps, O.K.?!

Keep sending in those cards and letters! Don't forget to write and let us know how you liked this issue and our new villain sensation...the BLACK GATOR!

A PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE FROM Archie® COMICS.



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